Sunday, August 28, 2011 | 4 ★ | 15 sections | Vol. 26 | No. 261 | P30 | www.inquirer.net | Mobile Alert: INQUIRER BREAKING to 2800

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER

TREE OF LIFE A farmer in Dumaguete City climbs up a 20-foot coconut tree to gather coconut sap known as tuba which he will cook into coco sugar or fermented into coconut gin called "lambanog" to provide livelihood to his family. The tree is known for its many other uses, which makes it one of the most versatile trees in the tropics. Coconut Week ends today with an exhibit and sale of coconut products at SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City.

New York City is closed

No subway, bridges, airports, Broadway ahead of 'historic hurricane'

NEW YORK—Tens of thousands of people along the US East Coast were on the move Saturday, fleeing their homes and vacation spots ahead of massive Hurricane "Irene," which has shut down airports, transit systems and scores of businesses, including Broadway.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has ordered an unprecedented mass evacuation and the closure of America's biggest subway system—the first time ever because of a natural disaster—while US President Barack Obama cut short his summer vacation and returned to Washington.

Obama, speaking from Martha's Vineyard Island off the coast of Massachusetts before ending his vacation early, said all indications point to the storm being a historic hurricane.

The Category 2 hurricane, packing winds of 157 kilometers per hour, slammed into the coast of North Carolina on Saturday before moving up the eastern seaboard toward Washington, New York and Connecticut.

Though the wind strength has weakened from the forecast 160 kph, authorities say the hazards are still the same.

"The emphasis for this storm is on its size and duration, not necessarily how strong

VIEW THIS A3

Gadhafi-free Tripoli feasts on 'miracle'

TRIPOLI—The Libyan capital Tripoli celebrated the "miracle" of its first free Friday with shooting-shouting shows security and happiness after months of fighting to topple the regime of Moammar Gadhafi.

"We are more than happy. Ours is just as replacement for freedom," said Zaid Shitiwi as he strolled in his neighborhood mosque with pregnant wife and two toddlers in tow.

"We are ready to live freely without Gadhafi. Before you couldn't say a word and

ADAMS PATE A9

Libyan rebels hound Gadhafi ▪ Atrocities by both sides feared / A8

THEY! FRIDAY OF FREEDOM! Libyans celebrate freedom after the Friday Muslim prayer at a mosque next to the Green Square renamed Martyrs Square in Tripoli. ▪

Dutch treat to upland Negrenses: Flowing water

By DJ Yap

SIX WORK had taken Dutch marine engineer Julio Idarraga to places that were literally high and dry, mainly the uplands of Negros. When he first got there in the late 1990s, the closest water source was hundreds of meters away from the poor villages, often requiring a trek down treacherous ravines.

But Idarraga had since led a group that not only overcame gravity but also centuries-old social divides.

The group equipped the mountain settlements with the hydraulic ram pump, an old, nearly-forgotten technology capable of bringing a steady water supply to elevated areas using only the raw power of a rushing river or stream.

Everywhere he went at the beginning of his mission, the tall and lanky Caucasian often drew curious stares from the villagers.

"But when I began talking to Bisaya, I blended in immediately," said Idarraga, co-founder of the Philippine-based Hidrotecnica

DAPHNE A4-5

Virgin coconut oil hailed as cure for Alzheimer's

By Cesar C. Villariba
Contributor

ATTED previous claims as an antiseptic, AIDS cure, anti-infective, cholesterol-buster, and remedy for rodent ulcers and pains, coconut oil is now being hailed as a possible miracle cure for Alzheimer's.

The American physician, who has been dubbed "Dr. Coconut" for his tireless research into and championing of coconut oil's healing properties, is back in the country bringing the latest breakthrough in the management of Alzheimer's and other neurological conditions.

Dr. Bruce Fife presented his evidence at the ongoing 13th Coconut Festival in Mandaluyong City refuting the remarkable recovery of Doris Bourque, 78, from five years of progres-

VIRGIN A6

'Meddling' woman among 8 outstanding cops

By DJ Yap

SHE WAS GROWING up in the town of Tiguion in Camarines Sur, Delia Jacob frequently hated to see her playmates picking on other girls. She often got into fights defending the weaker ones from the bullies and suffered numerous bruises for the trouble.

She was always being teased about trying to be a heroine, but this was precisely what the kind always protected herself to be. Years later, Chief Insp. Delia Ingalla is a decorated police woman who will step to confront a father beating a child or a thug punching his girlfriend on the street.

"I meddle a lot," the 34-year-old mother of two continued with a laugh.

That propensity for interfering—or meddling, as she prefers to call it—is what makes her a good woman and an excellent cop, said Ingalla, chief of the women and children's protection desk of the Tagaig police force.

PHILIPPINES A-9

PMAyers in PNP a vanishing breed

By DJ Yap

AS HE PREPARED to step down next month, Philippine National Police (PNP) Director General Raul Bacalzo sees himself as an "endangered species," a member of the vanishing breed of Philippine Military Academy (PMA) graduates in the police service.

In 10 years, he said, the PNP chief have been the last of PMA graduates occupying think, storied chapter in the history of a law enforcement agency where the 1987 Constitution designates as civilian in character. Despite its deep military roots.

At present, just over 200 PMA graduates man positions in the PNP, including Bacalzo, a member of Class '77 (Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Eduardo Oban Jr. is Bacalzo's understudy and belonging to Class '78.)

PMAYERS A-9

WHAT'S INSIDE

NEWS ▪ **'Nina'** slow-moving typhoon, kills 6 ▪ **Tony Blair:** PH perfect place to study impact of faith on globalization ▪ **No** vehicle coding Aug. 29,30 **TALK OF THE TOWN** ▪ **What** to do to fight dengue **WORLD** ▪ **Syrians:** Gadhafi's gone, your turn, Assad ▪ **UN** building in Nigeria bombed **ENTERTAINMENT** ▪ **High-ranking** politico eyeing sultry singer **SUNDAY LIFESTYLE** ▪ **Bird-watching,** diving, heritage-touring from Bacolor to Bataan **SIM** ▪ **10** best bike routes to make your heart beat faster

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY: Typhoon "Mina" was located at 80 km. Northeast of Aparri, Cagayan. Signal No. 3: Cagayan including Babuyan and Calayan Group of Islands, Apayao, Abulug, Pamplona, Signal No. 2: Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Abra, Kalinga-Apayao, Mt. Province, Kalinga, Isabela, Signal No. 1: La Union, Benguet, Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and Aurora

Baguio	Cloudy with rains	Tuguegarao	Cloudy with rains
Dagupan	Cloudy with rains	Aparri	Cloudy with rains
Tagaytay city	Stormy	Cubao	Cloudy with rains
Laoag	Stormy	Cauayan	Cloudy with rains
Metro Manila	Rainy	Sta. Cruz, Laguna	Cloudy with rains
Puerto Prin.	Rainy	Batangas city	Cloudy with rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with rains	Legazpi city	Cloudy with rains
Virac	Cloudy with rains	Masbate	Cloudy with rains

6/45 11 34 1 38 22 17

LUCKY 9 9 8 7 9 4 2 1 1 6

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6 dead, 4 missing as 'Mina' hovers

By Inquirer Northern Luzon

TYPHOON "Mina," packing gusts of up to 200 kilometers per hour, continued to batter northern Luzon yesterday, triggering landslides that have killed at least five children and one man in Pangasinan and Baguio City, according to police and disaster response reports.

Four others were reported missing—two fishermen (one in Catanduanes, the other in La Union) and two farmers in Ilocos Sur—as Mina whipped the country's eastern coast before hitting land near Dumagas, Cagayan, at 6 a.m. yesterday.

Mina (international name: Nanmadol) toppled trees and electric posts, cutting off electricity in Isabela, Ilocos Norte and Baguio City. Low-lying towns and riverside villages in Isabela and Pangasinan were flooded. A tornado hit Sarrat, Ilocos Norte.

Cagayan and the northernmost islands are still being pounded as the typhoon is moving southward very slowly, according to weathermen.

Yesterday morning in Pangasinan, siblings Benjie Bautista, 6, and John Jay, 5, died when a landslide crushed their hut at the foot of a hill in Barangay Balloo in San Nicolas town.

Chief Insp. Dondigo Soriano, San Nicolas police chief, said the children's parents survived.

Soriano said the landslide occurred at the height of heavy rains at 1 a.m. The victims' bodies were dug up two hours later.

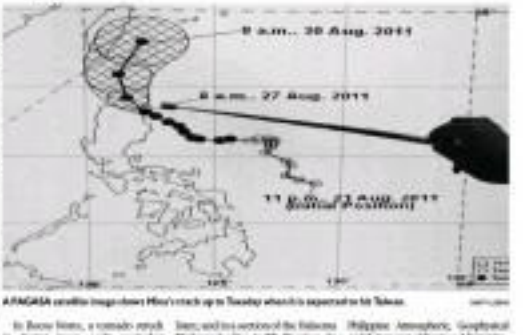
In Baguio City strong rains Saturday soon triggered a slide that toppled a section of the city dump in Barangay Kisad, killing at least three children, aged 3 to 13 years, and burying three houses near the facility, the Office of Civil Defense in the Cordillera said. The three families have yet to be identified.

Digging for gold

Rescue workers, the OCD said, managed to save a still unspecified number of people belonging to eight families whose homes were swamped by piles of garbage that were washed up from the dump.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan said a man who was digging for gold in the outskirts of the city was killed by mud and rocks that cascaded from a hillside.

Jo Bengantan, Aweis Inoray, spokesperson of the provincial disaster risk reduction and management council (PDRMC), said flash floods were reported in the towns of Luna, San Fabian, San Nicolas and Pozorrubio.



A PAGASA satellite image shows Mina's track up to Tuesday when it is expected to hit Taiwan.

In Ilocos Norte, a tornado struck in Sarrat town early yesterday morning, uprooting trees and destroying at least seven houses and partially damaging a dozen others. No one, however, was reported hurt.

Another whirlwind churned through Barangay Catalinan at 10 a.m., uprooting trees and blocking a road in the village.

In Baguio City, a huge tree in front of the city's landmark cathedral fell, dragging down several electrical posts and triggering a power outage in the mountain city.

Rains also caused the city-owned Burnham Lake to overflow, while the heavy downpour worsened the condition of Baguio roads, which had been dug up in preparation for repairs.

Signal No. 1

Despite the heavy rains and strong wind, the city was only on day 89 typhoon signal No. 1. College students got an unplanned vacation as many local universities proceeded with scheduled examinations.

Kennon Road, the shortest route to the summer capital, was closed to traffic on Saturday. The Marcos Highway and Naguilian Road were open to all types of vehicles.

Mina's rains triggered landslides that blocked roads in Bugnay in Bokod town heading to the Ambuklao Dam, and two sections of the Halsema Highway leading to Mt. Province. In Itogon, landslides were reported along stretches of a national road in Barangays Dusoal in Tapucdan town and Ucab in Virac town.

Typhoon Mina slightly weakened Saturday afternoon hours after making landfall in Cagayan but remained a threat to the northern tip of Luzon.

By 4 p.m. Saturday, Mina had weakened slightly with winds of 140 kph and gustiness of 200 kph. Its eye was spotted 50 km northeast of Aparri, Cagayan.

Right weakening

Storm signal No. 3 was raised in Cagayan, including the Babuyan and Calayan group of islands, Apayao and Batanes. No. 2 over Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Abra, Kalinga, Mt. Province, Ifugao and Isabela, and No. 1 over La Union, Benguet, Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and Aurora.

"It has slightly weakened as it continues to move northwestward," forecaster Aurelio Galang told a briefing. But he added: Tonight and tomorrow we will continue to experience strong weather in northern Luzon.

Northbound ports were resolved yesterday because Mina showed its northward movement from 9 to 7 kph. On Saturday, Coastguard Commodore Wilfredo Tamayo ordered the suspension of sea travel in the northern Luzon provinces of Cagayan, Isabela, Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur.

Typhoon Mina is the 13th storm to enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility this year. Typhoon Nock-ten, which killed 1,000 people in the country in December last year, was the most destructive storm to hit the country in 2011.

Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) director Mina as "different" from other typhoons, adding: "Here we are in the middle of August, and we're only now experiencing a typhoon."

"The rainfall is not normal," he observed. Pastrol, adding: "Let's observe all necessary precautions against landslides and floods."

"Manila is spared so far but it's not safe to travel because of the possibility of landslides at Halsema Hwy., Marcos Hwy. to Ilocos, executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. "It travel is not that important, postpone it," he added.

Mina is not expected to be out of the Philippine area of responsibility until Tuesday. Big waves or storm surges will prevail in coastal areas of northern Luzon, while rain and gustiness will continue in the rest of northern Luzon, and the western section of central and southern Luzon, Pagasa said.

President Aquino has ordered the Department of Social Welfare and Development to "pre-position" some P15 million in cash and relief provisions for residents displaced by Mina's return. Gabriel Cardinoza, Florante Cabrera, Cristina Arandez and Hilarion Rivera Jr., Inquirer Northern Luzon, and Tonette Orejas and Armando Galang, Inquirer Central Luzon; with TJ Burgonio in Manila and wire reports

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AN ARCHDIST tree near the Baguio Cathedral was toppled by Mina's winds on Saturday, ripping up roots and electric posts. The summer capital was under state of calamity. | Inquirer Northern Luzon

DepEd creates own disaster office

TO ENSURE the safety of the education community, the Department of Education (DepEd) has formed its own disaster management office to serve as a central planning, policy-making and operations body in times of calamity.

Education Secretary Armin Luistro has ordered the creation of the DepEd Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (DRRMO) to enhance the agency's disaster preparedness, response and mitigation measures.

"This department shall create the DRRMO to institutionalize the culture of safety at all levels, to operationalize protection of education investments and to ensure continued delivery of quality education services," said Luistro in DepEd Order No. 56.

The DRRMO will establish mechanisms which will prepare, promote protection and increase resiliency of DepEd constituents in the face of disaster, Luistro said.

It will be led by a core group composed of key officials in the DepEd central office, he said.

The DRRMO shall serve as a "venue to discuss DRRM, to recommend policy actions and propose programs [which will mitigate and reduce the impact of disasters]" to DepEd officials, staff, teachers, students and even DepEd's property.

It is expected to oversee disaster response modules for students and provide schools with emergency kits for their use in times of disaster.

The DepEd will also create an Emergency Operations Center which will serve as the department's nerve center in times of calamity.

The order addressed to all DepEd executives, directors, local officials and school heads, was issued in line with the 2010 Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, which mandates all government agencies to establish disaster mitigation bodies.

Students are among the most affected in times of disaster such as typhoons, landslides and other calamities. Their school resources, among them, books, desks, computers and even entire classrooms, are damaged if not totally destroyed.

Tarra Quismundo

Robredo: Who's to blame for snafu in drug case?

By Tarra Quismundo, Inquirer Central Luzon and DJ Yap in Manila

MALOLOS, Bulacan—Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo wants to know who orchestrated the evidence in the drug case filed against the so-called Alabang Boys, two of whose were acquitted and released Friday due to technical lapses in the investigation.

"It is important to clarify accountability. Where was the mistake? Who made the mistake?" Robredo said on Saturday.

Robredo was here as a guest during the declaration of the Sta. Monica Church as a national cultural treasure.

Robredo, who has administrative control over the Philippine National Police, was concerned with the representations of sloppy evidence handling and investigation.

"We cannot just forget the case. What might happen now every time there is drug case, it is possible to intentionally bungle the process even if there is enough evidence. They would disregard the procedures so the case would be dismissed," he said.

He said the mishandling of evidence and misconduct in the investigation were not expected because the prosecutor were alert and strict, citing the requirement that barangay officials and media representatives should be present during the serving of arrest warrants.

In the Alabang Boys' case, Robredo said the "procedural flaws" should be rectified.

He noted that the judge did not say whether the accused were innocent or guilty. "What the judge said was there was no error in the process of handling the evidence," he said.

PDEA beseeches Congress

To avoid the same mistake, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) is pushing for amendments to the antidrug law to do away with impractical demands on law enforcers in the safekeeping of seized evidence.

PDEA Director General Ivan Carreon Jr. said he hoped Congress would enact things to certain provisions of Republic Act No. 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

In particular, he cited Section 21 that provides for the proper "custody and disposition of confiscated, seized and/or surrendered dangerous drugs, plant sources of dangerous drugs, controlled precursors and essential chemicals/paraphernalia and/or laboratory equipment."

In a briefing on Friday, Carreon said PDEA agents had found it hard to comply with some of the requirements, including one that obligates them to conduct an inventory of the seized items or paraphernalia at the crime scene.

"Sometimes you can't avoid transferring them to another area because it is not safe there," Carreon told reporters.

"We're not saying we want shortcuts. It's just that we find it difficult to comply with the requirements," he said.

Carreon also wants to amend the provision which requires the presence of a representative of the justice department, and elected officials during drug raids.

Early morning raid

"What if the operation is done early in the morning or before dawn? It would be difficult to have those people present," Carreon said.

"I hope the amendments would be pushed in Congress," he said.

He expressed regret over the decision of a Muntinlupa court absolving Richard Ilesdert and Jorge Joseph on drug charges due to the PDEA supposed mishandling of evidence.

The PDEA arrested the two, as well as other men, Joseph Tesoro, in 2008 for the alleged possession and sale of 67 "Ecstasy" tablets.

Ilesdert and Joseph were arrested in Ayala shopping subdivision in Muntinlupa, while Tesoro was arrested in a separate operation at Aurora Corner in Quezon City and is being tried separately.

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J.E. Marigundon; 54

LAPU-LAPU and associates Jose E. Marigundon, past president of the Rotary Club of Bankaya-Nort District 3830, died on Aug. 24 at the age of 54.

He is survived by his parents Francisco and Dolores; brothers Benedicto, Meyer, Francisco Jr. and Alfredo; and sisters Beatriz, Ma. Aneka, Ma. Teresa and Ma. Soccoro.

His remains lie at Sta. Rita Church, Bacharo, Bankaya-City Inocencio will be entombed later.

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Antigun group petitions House

THE ANG SUMBONG Party-List (ASP) submitted last week a position paper to the House committee on public order and safety asking it to withdraw penalties for crimes related to firearms, light weapons and ammunition.

The ASP, which is assigned, submitted Petition 001 which is affirmed under Republic Act No. 8733 that lets accredited parties directly submit proposals for bills.

"We respectfully call on the committee to adhere to the pertinent provision of the law by giving priority to Petition 001, by conducting hearings or inquiries on arms and concerns, and submitting a report on the petition to the House," said ASP secretary general Sherman Cabreros.

Petition 001, the first ever filed under RA 8733, seeks to bring down gun-related crimes, assist the Philippine National Police and empower communities to peace-keeping, keep no-jail guns owning criminals and insurgents, and the reign of private armies, and stop the proliferation of Illegal firearms.

It installs provisions in the bill pending in the committee, which would grant individuals a permit to carry firearms outside their residence and license on possession from two up to more than 10 firearms.

"These provisions alone of the substitute bill should effectively disarm, destroy or the kind of country we could be governing. Is this what we wish to have for ourselves, than secure bequeath to our children and our children's children," Cabreros said.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
TOLL REGULATORY BOARD

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Toll Regulatory Board ("TRB") will be holding a public hearing/consultation on September 1 and 5, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the TRB Multi-purpose Hall, 4th Floor, ISP Building, Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig Metro Manila.

RE: TRB'S Imposition of Value-Added Tax On Toll Fees

Any interested expressway user is invited to attend the aforementioned public hearing/consultation.

By Authority of the Board:

(SGD) MANUEL G. IMPERIAL
Executive Director

Health Advisory

ABKD
(Aksyon Barangay Kontra Dengue)

Hanapin at Linisin
ang maaaring pamugaran ng lamok.

Gawin ang mga sumusunod:

- Butasan o biyakin ang mga lumang gulong upang hindi maipunan ng tubig at pangitlugan ng lamok.

- Takpan ang mga drum, timba at iba pang ipunan ng tubig upang hindi pamahayan ng kiti-kiti at linisin ito minsan isang linggo.

- Palitan ang tubig ng plorera o flower vase minsan isang linggo.

- Linisin at alisin ang tubig sa paminggalan.

- Itapon ang iba pang bagay na maaring pag-ipunan ng tubig at pangitlugan ng lamok tulad ng lata, bote at tansan.

- Linisin ang alulod ng bahay upang hindi maipunan ng tubig at pamahayan ng kiti-kiti.

Magpatingin sa health center
kung may lagnat na ng 2 araw.

GAWING DENGUE-FREE ANG INYONG BARANGAY.

Solon notes 'tampered' testimony in Mayuga Report

THE MAYUGA Report that was submitted by the Department of National Defense (DND) to Congress was incomplete and at least one testimony may have been tampered with, according to Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Neri Javier Colmenares.

Colmenares said this was the testimony of retired Col. Nestor Pilapil, then Philippine Marine commander.

In the testimony of Pilapil's interview, it was stated that "he was reminded (on) both experts requested for handling after the election, by an alleged lawyer of the Noel Commission."

However, no such statement appeared in the complete interview which was attached to the report as an annex, Colmenares noted.

"The same testimony cleaned up?" the lawmaker asked.

"The main issue investigated by the Mayuga panel was the involvement of military officers in partisan political activities. The mentioned watchdog of these developments is a serious offense and the Mayuga panel or the DND must be asked to surrender these missing documents," Colmenares said.

In July 2005, Vice Adm. Mateo Mayuga, then inspector general of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) headed a military inquiry into the involvement of at least five generals whose names came up in the "Hello Garci" phone conversations.

The scandal involved supposedly wiretapped conversations between then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and then Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano on the rigging of the 2004 presidential polls.

The tapes mentioned a number of ranking military men, including then army chief Lt. Gen. Hermogenes Esperon. The Mayuga Report later cleared the officers.

The report had been classified as "secret" but President Aquino declassified it after Colmenares asked the House of Representatives' committee on appropriations to suspend deliberations on the proposed DND budget for 2012 unless the report was given to Congress.

Colmenares, a lawyer, urged Malacañang to compel the DND to submit the entire report so he could study it completely.

In House Resolution No. 1054, Col. Antares and his party-list colleague, Rep. Teddy Casiño, sought an investigation into the Mayuga Report, saying the attorney retired Gen. the Mayuga panel covered up all the leads to the involvement of certain AFP officers in the alleged cheating operations.

It said the annexes comprising more than 2,000 pages of military documents and testimonies of military officials and personnel mentioned not only generals but high officials of the Arroyo administration.

"There is in fact a strong possibility that then Commander in Chief Macapagal-Arroyo ordered her favored generals to help in the rigging of the 2004 polls to ensure her victory," the resolution said.

"Like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle of fraud, lies and deceit, the events that transpired after the controversial 2004 presidential election have come to the fore and lead to the logical conclusion that the legitimacy must immediately set to answer the truth," it added.

Colmenares said other apparently missing documents annexed to the report were titled Armor Organization Inventory (AFP TF HOPE 2004); initial staffing scheme; Organizational structure; Current DTD/DTG DTG. Estimates 4th Quarter Order of Battle Report CY 2002; and Operations Layo.

Cynthia Balana

need a job?

THE DAILY GOSPEL

AUGUST 28 (Sunday)
Psalter: Week 3
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(1 Kgs 8:22, 23-43, 2-6, 8-9
Dly-ated is dwelling for you, O Lord
(Ps 84)

1st Reading: 1 Jer 20:7-9

Yahweh, you have seduced me and I let myself be seduced.
You have taken me by force and prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all the long day; they all make fun of me.
For every time I speak I have to shout, "Violence! Devastation!"
Yahweh's word has brought me insult and derision all day long.
So I decided to forget about him and speak in his name no more.
But his word is in my heart because like a fire burning deep within my bones.
I try to hold it in, but I cannot do it.

2nd Reading: 1 Rom 12:1-2

I beg you, dearly beloved, by the mercy of God, to give yourselves as a living and holy sacrifice pleasing to God: such is the worship of a rational being. Do not yourselves be shaped by the world where you live, but rather be transformed through the renewal of your mind. Then you shall discern the will of God, what is good, what pleases, what is perfect.

Gospel: 1 Mk 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, he would suffer many things from the Jewish authorities, the chief priests and the teachers of the Law, he would be killed and be raised on the third day.
Then Peter took him aside and began to reproach him, "Never, Lord! No, this must never happen to you." But Jesus turned to him and said, "Get behind me, Satan! You would form my stumble. You do not think as God does, but as people do."
Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If you want to follow me, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me. For whoever chooses to save his life will lose it, but the one who loses his life for my sake will find it. What will you gain by winning the whole world if you destroy yourself? There is nothing you can give in exchange for your own self.
"Know that the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with the holy angels, and he will reward each one according to his deeds."

REFLECTION:
Invite
- You must discern the will of God: what is good, what pleases, what is perfect.

Meditate
- God's will - what is good, perfect, pleasing. It may take us a lifetime to discern it always to be the result.

Relate
- We are aware of how we often miss the mark our aim. Let us aim to do what's most pleasing to us wonderfully by praising God.

Ante
- Reflect on the difference between being really discerning and merely discriminating.

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Blair: PH perfect place to study faith, globalization

By Tony Blair

THE PHILIPPINES is in many ways the perfect place to explore the complexities surrounding the relationship between faith and globalization, both past and present. As a society deeply influenced historically by Spanish, Indonesian, Malaysian and indigenous cultures, it finds itself in the 21st century occupying a delicate and profoundly important role in both Asian and Western trade and foreign affairs. I am therefore pleased to announce that the Tony Blair Faith Foundation (TBFF) has just established a deep and substantive partnership in the Philippines. A schools initiative to make inter-faith dialogue a part of social education; a program presently in 17 other nations; and a consortium of universities that will join the global Faith and Globalization course that was begun at Yale in the USA and is now in eight countries around the world.

Enormous possibility

The Philippines is a great place to have such ideas. It is a fascinating country on the move, facing big challenges but with enormous possibility to build. It is starting to fulfill. It has a new president with a strong mandate and the determination and capability to succeed and a people behind him willing him on. It is a nation of 200 million, situated in the middle of the rising East, with resources, culture and beauty to exploit. Its people are hard-working and smart. Its poverty remains real, but so does its potential.

Faith is also a big part of the country. It is predominantly Christian and Catholic, but it has a significant Muslim population. In the past years the Philippines has witnessed a tragic dispute in its Mindanao region, where the majority of the Muslim people live. Largely ignored by the outside world, this conflict has resulted in the death, in recent decades of 150,000 people, displaced two million and inhibited what could be huge investment in the southern part of the islands which is rich in deposits of oil, gas and minerals. It is actually the second oldest conflict on earth after North/South Sudan.

Faith-based programs

Hence the need for, and the importance of faith-based programs that promote peaceful resolutions. Of course, here, as to all such situations there are a myriad of political and economic issues that complicate. However, here also, we cannot hope to establish peace without accepting that religion is part of the problem and therefore must become part of the solution. To its great credit the government is prepared to recognize this and help make it happen.

The TBFF will be working closely with the government on two levels. In the first place, we will be working with the Department of Education to bring our "Face to Faith" program into Filipino public schools. This program will provide the next generation of Filipino leaders with the opportunity to learn essential communication skills while also gaining greater understanding of inter-faith dialogue and the role of religion in the world. Second, we will work with the Commission for Higher Education, the Office of the Peace Process and a consortium of universities in our "Faith & Globalization Initiative," which gives university students from around the world the opportunity to learn more about religious and spiritual issues in the context of globalization.

Pervasive and complex

From this example, we can see a wider truth about the way we live and work today. The role of religion in today's world can be described in two words: Pervasive and complex. Religion extends its influence over a myriad of aspects of our daily lives in the globalized 21st century, whether or not we have religious faith ourselves. Religion can claim responsibility for some of the most profoundly positive and important events and movements the world has ever known. Yet it has also been associated with some of the most heinous and horrible crimes against humanity.

Unstoppable force

Globalization is an unstoppable force, driven partly by technology and partly by people. Its impact is to thrust people, online and physically together through mass travel and migration. So today people are never of, one with and competing with those of a different faith. There are three true responses. One is to make sense of this interaction by establishing ways and means of living together, learning from each other and encouraging in mutual respect.

The other is to react against the changes such a process brings and use religious faith as a badge of identity in opposition to those of another faith. The result, very often, is struggle by being plotted out. There is a risk that extremism grows unchecked except by security methods whereas what is needed is a combination of hard and soft power. But the other side effect is that faith itself is discredited, seen as the cause of the world's problems not a vital anchoring force for its future.

This would be sad, because the single most compelling fact about faith and the resurgence of faith in the world governing so many lives not diminishing, is that amongst all the potential for conflict, it still does immense good for the people of this world, in caring for them, supporting them when weak and counseling them when strong. This, too the extremism is the true face of Faith.

Tony Blair is the founder and patron of the Tony Blair Faith Foundation (www.tonyblairfaithfoundation.org).

FORMER Prime Minister of Britain Tony Blair addresses the audience during the signing last week of a memorandum of agreement between his Faith Foundation and the Department of Education at the Peninsula Manila hotel. Flanking him are Education Secretary Armin Luistro and CHED Chair Patricia Licuanan.

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Studies show maternal deaths in PH in decline

By Christian V. Esguerra

MUCH is true of words in a battle of figures.

The ongoing Senate debate on the reproductive health (RH) bill has shifted to a key question: How many mothers actually die in the Philippines every day?

Senators Miriam Defensor-Santiago and Pia Cayetano, proponents of the bill in the upper chamber, have cited the figure of 11 mothers dying daily due to pregnancy-related factors.

The number is supposedly based on a 2000 Family Planning Survey by the National Statistics Office, according to the youth arm of the pro-administration Akbayan group.

But two separate studies published in 2010, one of which was conducted by the World Health Organization (WHO), showed a significant decline in the maternal mortality rate in the country.

The WHO study recorded a total of 2,100 maternal deaths in the Philippines in 2008. The figure translates to 5.75 maternal deaths per day, which is half the number being used to push for the bill bill.

The WHO figure was contained in the report titled "Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2008." The group conducted the study together with Unicef, United Nations Population Fund, and World Bank.

A separate study published by the Lancet journal showed an 82 percent decrease in maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in the Philippines from 1980 to 2008.

The study was titled "Maternal mortality for 181 countries, 1980-2008: A systematic analysis of progress towards Millennium Development Goal 5." Its authors were Margaret Hogan, Kyle Foreman, Mohsen Naghavi, Stephanie Ahn, Mengru Wang, Susanna Makela, Alan Lopez, Rafael Lozano and Christopher Murray.

Tonight for comment, Senate Majority Leader Vicente Sotto III yesterday said the WHO-traced DOH's PROT Bank study and the Lancet article "clearly dispute" the 11 daily maternal deaths being cited by bill advocates.

"But still, 11...Never lose maternal deaths mean mothers are dying and that shouldn't be happening," he told the hypocrite. "What they need are adequate resources, facilities and services and we can address all those issue. We don't have to be dependent on any RH bill to do these."

Sotto cited the women and children's division center he put up at the Vicente Sotto Memorial Hospital in Cebu. With an initial fund of P30 million in 2003, the center caters to around 10 patients a day he said.

The senator said similar centers were in the works in Iloilo and Davao.

The Lakbayan Center for Women's Health disputed the Lancet findings, saying "it is implausible that the Philippines achieved a record-setting decline in MMR amid all the economic and political turmoil during the 1980s."

"If Hogan and colleagues maneuvers were accurate, the great mystery is: How was it achieved?" she posed's Jessica Morgan and Alfredo Mejias asked in a letter to Lancet.

"Other indicators of maternal health support a scenario of little progress. For example, the proportion of deliveries by health professionals in the Philippines has been very steady...a mere 17 percent over 15 years (50-62 percent from 1993 to 2008), whereas Egypt, a widely accepted success story in MMR reduction, achieved a 99 percent increase in 16 years (41-79 percent from 1992 to 2008)."

Among neighboring countries, East Timor registered the highest MMR in 850 to the Lancet study. Laos had 330, Cambodia 206, Indonesia 220 and Burma 240.

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BLOOMBERG IN CHARGE New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg speaks during a news conference on Friday where he ordered the evacuation of more than 250,000 people and projected to shut down its entire mass transit system ahead of Hurricane "Irene's" expected arrival over the weekend. AP PHOTO

A MESSAGE FOR THE HOMELESS left by a resident as he boarded up his house on North Carolina's Outer Banks on Friday.

New York City is closed; no subway, Broadway

From page A1

the strongest winds are," warned National Hurricane Center (NHC) specialist Mike Brennan.

The densely populated corridor, home to more than 65 million people, was under the threat of flooding, storm surges, power outages and destruction that experts said could cost up to $1 trillion.

Officials declared emergencies, called up hundreds of National Guard troops, shut down public transit systems and begged hundreds of thousands of people to obey evacuation orders and get out of harm's way.

"Don't wait. Don't delay," said Obama. "I cannot stress this highly enough: If you are in the projected path of this storm, now, you have to take precautions now."

MASS EXODUS Cars clog the road to the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel ahead of the massive Hurricane "Irene," in Norfolk, Virginia. AP PHOTO

Latest forecasts

At press time, Irene had made it crashing landfall into the North Carolina coastline on Saturday, and according to the latest forecast, on closes up the eastern seaboard all the way through Virginia to New York City on Sunday before it weakened moving southern New England.

Irene's wrath in the Caribbean, including Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and the Bahamas, gave a preview of what might be coming to the United States: Power outages, dangerous floods and high winds that caused millions of dollars in damage.

Long before the storm's eye crossed the US coastline, rain and tropical storm-force winds of at least 80 kph already were pelting North and South Carolina as Irene trudged north, snapping power lines and flooding streets.

Officials warned of danger on trip caravans as Irene rolled the surf. Thousands already were without power. Wind and rains knocked out power to about 45,000 consumers along the coast, including a hospital.

'Extremely dangerous'

Irene will be accompanied by an "extremely dangerous" storm surge that could raise water levels by as much as 2.4 meters, the NHC said.

The NHC said the storm is unlikely to get any stronger and may weaken slightly before reaching land, but even below hurricane strength it would be a powerful and potentially destructive storm, it said.

Irene's approach revived painful memories of Hurricane "Katrina," which smashed into the Gulf Coast in 2005, stranding thousands of people in New Orleans and overwhelming poorly prepared local and federal authorities.

Last hurricane in 1985

"We haven't seen a hurricane threat like this in quite a few decades," Chris Vaccaro, a spokesperson from the National Weather Service, told AFP.

"This is going to be a very long weekend for the residents of the Mid-Atlantic and the northeast," he said.

Hurricanes are rare in the northeastern United States — the last major hurricane to hit New York was "Gloria" in 1985.

The US East Coast, home to some of the country's most densely populated cities and coastline waterfront real estate, was considered a multibillion-dollar disaster, experts forecast.

In addition to widespread wind and water damage, Irene could also pack enough oil prices higher if it disrupts refineries in Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia, which produce nearly 8 percent of US gasoline and diesel fuel.

First-ever NYC evacuation

Bloomberg told a news conference Friday he had ordered the first-ever mass evacuations from low-lying areas across the densely populated New York City that are home to some 250,000 people, calling it a "matter of life or death."

Subways, buses and trains in one of the world's largest public transportation systems were to stop running at noon Saturday as bridges and tunnels also could be closed as the storm approaches, clogging traffic in an already congested city.

The first major New York City area airports were also scheduled to close at noon Saturday for arriving passenger flights.

Several New York landmarks were under the evacuation order, including the Battery Park City area where tourists catch ferries to the Statue of Liberty.

Sporting events, concerts and even Broadway were going dark.

The unprecedented orders, which affect New Yorkers from Manhattan and out to the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, made the congested metropolis a formidable logistical challenge that raised more questions than it resolved.

Where to?

Where are all of those people in New York's flood zones now supposed to go? And, more pointedly, how are they going to get there...especially since many don't own cars?

Officials hoped some residents would stay with family and friends, and for the one day city opened nearly 100 shelters with a capacity of 71,000 people.

Many people scoffed at the danger and vowed to ride it out at home.

Bloomberg said he was confident people would get out of the storm's way.

"We do not have the manpower to go door-to-door and drag people out of their homes," he said. "Nobody's going to get fined. Nobody's going to go to jail. But if you don't follow this, people might die."

"It's possible to evacuate without going very far," said John Wasdin, a forecaster at Texas A&M University's meteorology department who has been involved in disaster planning in his role in the state climatologist.

Big wild card

"The big wild card for New York is the fact that nobody has ever had to evacuate a city of this size before," he said. "Nobody knows how many people will actually leave."

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There is need to is hurricane and can't rely on common sense or past experience as a guide. And what we learned from evacuations in Houston is that people who are those friends and their own experience as much as, or more than, they rely on public officials," he said.

America's biggest city has not seen a hurricane in decades, and a hurricane warning hasn't been issued there since Hurricane "Gloria" hit in 1985 as a Category 2 storm, said Ashley Evans, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

Even if the winds aren't strong enough to damage buildings in concrete-and-steel-made largely of brick, concrete and steel, a lot of New York's subways and other infrastructure are underground, making them subject to flooding.

New York's two airports are closer to the water and could be inundated, as could densely packed neighborhoods, if the storm pushes ocean water into the city's waterways, officials said.

The last 200 years

In the last 200 years, New York has seen only a few significant hurricanes. In September 1821, a hurricane rained what is it seems is an hour and flooded all of Manhattan south of Canal Street, the southernmost tip of the city. The area now includes Wall Street and the World Trade Center memorial.

An infamous 1938 storm dubbed the Long Island Express came ashore about 120 kilometers east of the city and slammed New England, killing 700 people and leaving 63,000 homeless.

In 2008, the city had a brush with Tropical Storm "Hanna," which dumped 8 centimeters of rain on Manhattan. AFP, Reuters and AP

Virgin coconut oil hailed as cure for Alzheimer's, brain food

From page A1

ater dementia after just 15 days of taking virgin coconut oil (VCO).

Fife has written all about it in his book, "Stop Alzheimer's Now."

Newport's case history

Newport was diagnosed when an MRI scan showed his brain had shrunk, a classic case of Alzheimer's disease, the progressive, degenerative brain of dementia that involves the loss of brain functions and memory behavioral changes.

Newport's wife Mary, who is a neonatal doctor at Spring Hill Regional Hospital in Florida, then began a relentless quest to seek a cure that would arrest his deterioration.

"It has been a nightmare to watch his decline and I feel helpless to do anything but watch it happen," said Mary.

In May 2008, Mary stumbled on a company that was enlisting volunteers to test a new drug for dementia-stricken patients. But like all experimental drugs, the company predicted subjects with moderate forms of the disease, based on how they scored in the MMSE (mini-mental state exam), a standard test of mental status used to screen for Alzheimer's.

Newport took the test twice and failed. He scored too low (shown in the border of severe dementia, to qualify as an experimental subject. Mary was devastated.

MCT miracle ingredient

Frustrated at a research background, Mary was able to dig up the results for the new drug called AC-1202 (Ramy Research in Aurora). She learned from the journal, *MedNeuroscience*, that the active ingredient in the drug was MCT (medium chain triglycerides), an oil that is used to treat epilepsy and also placed in hospital feeding programs for newborns.

Bingo! She knew as a pediatrician that babies needed to develop their brains with the right brain foods and MCT was found in great quantities in VCO, the oil extracted from the fresh meat of coconuts.

Intuitively, she started Newport on a feeding program. Instead of using Axona at $500 per month (with 1 dose a day Mary used VCO — at a cost of $90 a month... giving him 2 tablespoons of a mixture of VCO and its pharmaceutical isolate, MCT, with every meal.

Because of the high amounts of saturated fat in this diet, some have expressed concern about how this could affect blood cholesterol levels.

According to Fife, Newport's tests have dispelled this notion and in fact his cholesterol levels have actually improved with the good cholesterol (HDL) going up and the bad cholesterol (LDL) going down.

DR. COCONUT Bruce Fife presents his evidence in this book.

In 10 months, Newport's severe dementia was totally reversed. He scored high enough in the MMSE tests to be considered to be in the mild range of Alzheimer's.

Tale of hope, persistence

Inspired by her husband's recovery, Dr. Mary Newport travels all over the United States telling her story of hope and persistence. She encourages the medical scientific community to leap on with their research into the use of MCTs as a therapeutic aid in treating Alzheimer's, as well as Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and other neurodegenerative disorders.

In March 2009, the experimental drug AC-1202 was renamed Axona and approved by the US Food and Drug Administration as a medical food for treatment of Alzheimer's disease with no therapeutic claims.

When Axona finally came out, it caused intestinal disorders and diarrhea among some patients. Others reported that the drug's effects were cut after only a few hours that they still had to take it three times a day, according to some levels. Ketones are organic compounds that result when body fat is broken down for energy.

Fife explained that dosage increases its effective after some time and coconut oil, converted into ketones, decrease the formation of free radicals that damage the cells. Hence, coconut oil is especially important for those taking medications.

"Following Dr. Newports' example, many people with neurologic disorders are now incorporating coconut oil into their diets with good results," said Fife.

Brain food

He said if any food would be labelled as brain food it would be coconut oil.

According to Fife, coconut oil, converted into ketones, acts as a superfuel for the brain and increases brain function, stops the erratic signal transmissions that leads to seizures, and improves cognition and memory.

The MCTs in coconut oil are converted into ketones, which act as high-potency fuel for the brain. The ketones MCTs provide energy to the brain and stimulate healing and repair, he said.

The chemical structure of the MCTs and fatty acids in coconut oil enable them to pass through the blood brain barrier, which ordinary food or other saturated fats, he said.

Revived coco industry

Fife credits his visits to the Philippines as triggering his pursuit of coconut research. He said his first visit in 2004 was an eye opener for him. He was amazed at the waste everytime he got close to a Philippine coconut.

"They were thinking not for reviving the coconut industry," he said.

It was the economic implications for the people that have spurred Fife to continue his research into the health benefits of this tropical food endemic to the Philippines and one that the American health community has dubbed him "Dr. Coconut."

Fife has established a nonprofit organization, Coconut Research Center, to educate the public on the health and nutritional aspects of coconut. He has disseminated his research in two books, "Coconut Cures" (2003) and "Coconut Water" which he has made available online in www.coconutresearchcenter.org.

The author has been active in the coconut industry for 30 years, and is a director of the Philippine Coconut Authority governing board.

Libyan rebels hound Gadhafi

TRIPOLI—Libyan rebels said they were closing in on hometown strongman Moammar Gadhafi amid reports their dogged fighters in the capital under one command to streamline operations.

There was no sign of a ceasefire in the text, which they have until mid-day next where Gadhafi is captured dead or alive, but the rebels claimed victory in Bab Aziz, raising their flag at the border post with Tunisia after clashes with loyalists.

A rebel detachment was also turning its attention to Sirte, Gadhafi's birthplace 450 kilometers east of Tripoli, where British aircraft have fired cruise missiles at strategic targets there among his followers.

Gunfire burst also still held position deep in the Sahara desert, days after gleeful rebels took much of the capital, unleashed Gadhafi's compound and paraded their stolen memories.

"Sirte remains an operating base from which pro-Gadhafi troops project hostile forces against Misrata and Tripoli," a State official said, adding that its forces had also acted to stop a column of 20 vehicles heading west toward Misrata.

Leaders of the National Transitional Council (NTC), which has Western support, pressed foreign governments to release Libyan funds frozen abroad, warning of its urgent needs to ensure order and provide services to a population traumatized by six months of conflict and 42 years of corrupt, personal rule.

Allies in Africa

But Gadhafi's longtime allies in Africa, beneficiaries of his oil-fuelled largesse and sympathizers with a foreign policy he called anti-colonial, offered him a grain of comfort and irked the rebels by refusing to follow Arab and Western powers in recognizing the NTC as the legal government of Libya.

Combined with the reluctance of major powers like China, Russia and Brazil, to see European and American dominate a time with Africa's biggest oil reserves, the African Union's (AU) resistance may slow the pace at which funds are released.

Mahmoud Jibril, head of the government in waiting, said time was short. Visiting Turkey, he said: "We have to establish an Army, strong police force to be able meet the needs of the people, and are need capital, and we need the assets."

Whilst many African states have recognized the NTC, the AU would not do so as long as fighting continued, South African President Jacob Zuma, a rotating chairman for Gadhafi, said after a meeting in Addis Ababa at which the AU called for all sides in the conflict to negotiate a peace and work for democracy.

If fighting continues unchecked, there are fears that Libya's conflict will spill over into the tension regions of Mali, Niger, Chad and Mauritania.

No services, water, etc.

Algeria has said it believes the chaos inside Libya, and large quantities of weapons circulating there, are already being exploited by al-Qaida's North African branch.

And an influential former Malian rebel, believed to have been involved in the trade of looted weapons from Libya, has been killed in Mali, officials said on Friday.

However, taking control of the Bab Aziz border post reopens a path for humanitarian aid and other supplies from Tunisia to Tripoli, where cooked medicines and fuel are running low.

"The revolutionaries control the area, but there are no services, water or electricity," said Abdul Qader, fleeing Abu Asl in the capital, just one area where bodies still lay in the streets from recent battles or apparent revenge killings.

Unified command

Rebel leaders are determined to show that they are in charge, though estimates vary of when the NTC will move formally from its Benghazi base in the east to the west coast than in Tripoli.

"We have come to operate the country. We are now the legal authority," declared Abdelrazak al-Airaj, a lawyer who has been the NTC's justice minister for some months, as he met foreign journalists in his capital wearing a rebel flag as a headscarf.

NTC leaders insist they want to work with other rebel groups that sprang up later in the west as well with those who have previously supported Gadhafi.

Driving home the unity message, rebel fighters in Tripoli, who came from all over a country fragmented by tribal and regional divisions, have been placed under the unified command of a military council, Tripoli's top rebel commander said. Reuters

CLOSE-UP: Libyan girls look through a shattered glass door at the house of Gadhafi's daughter in Bin Ashour in Tripoli on Friday. REUTERS

From page A1

Gadhafi-free Tripoli ...

spoke in whispers even in cafes where at home because you never knew who could be listening and what someone could land you in jail."

The conquest of Tripoli was described as comedic by Sheikh Faisal Mabrul, who is famous among rebels for his unforgiving opposition to the east, in what marked his first sermon in the capital.

"The Libya revolution is a miracle," he said. "God broke our chains."

Men of all ages hugged each other celebrating the rebel victory, welcomed back those just released from prison and offered condolences to those who had lost loved ones in the battle for the capital.

In Manila, Malacañang said yesterday it was hesitant about recognizing Libya's rebels, with the welfare of its 2,000 workers in the North African country still its foremost concern.

PH monitoring

President Aquino's spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said the government was monitoring the situation in Libya as the regime of Moammar Gadhafi was collapsing in the wake of a series of rebel victories.

"What is important for us is the Philippines is the protection of our own Filipino workers. That is our primary concern. We can now (see) whether or not an evacuation (Libya's) is necessary," he told reporters.

Around 1,400 Filipinos are still believed to be in Libya, many of them nurses treating casualties of the months-long uprising against Gadhafi.

No coincidence

Abdelh Shaheed, congressional rebel fighters for their victory, saying it was no coincidence that the capital fell on Aug. 20, the same day that the Prophet Muhammad conquered Mecca.

More than 1,000 worshippers filled Mayrion mosque, a spring board in February for anti-Gadhafi demonstrations in the capital in sympathy with protesters killed in Benghazi, birthplace of the revolt that escalated into conflict.

"We just exploded when we heard what happened to people in Benghazi," said Ali Hajia, referring to the brutal crackdowns on demonstrators that triggered revolts across Libya and sparked international condemnation.

"From this mosque we demonstrated in support of our brothers in Benghazi but we were arrested, blindfolded and beaten for information, about who participated in the demonstration," Jihadi Abdelhamak, a 33-educated professor, said.

First Friday of freedom

He said that even though it was the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, only a handful of worshippers had observed yap for Friday prayers in the previous weeks because they had risen of pro-Gadhafi extremists.

"This is the first Friday of freedom," he said.

Abdel Rauof Ben Issa uncle and brother in the battle of Bab al-Aziz area, — since the uprising of Gadhafi's regime and a focal point of five months of Nato air strikes and now the mighty of rebels who captured the capital on Saturday last week.

"Freedom is the only comfort I can find in my heart," he said.

Freedom on this Friday (January to Muslim) had a special meaning for Farah al-Issa, who said he was arrested by Gadhafi loyalists on the road to join rebels fighting in the western mountains and tortured for 10 days.

"This is my first Friday of freedom since getting out of (Gadhafi) prison," he said.

"The pain I endured in this fuller prison an unimaginable. We had no water, we were beaten and tortured at, some had their fingers cut off. We all thought we were going to die but we didn't own at long as Gadhafi's fell."

42-year coma

Mabrok equated Gadhafi's rule to a "42-year long coma."

The message of his Friday prayer centered rebels against celebrating revenge, disobedience, in fighting and vandalism, ensuring that the battle was not over.

"Don't spoil it ... don't fight over guns ... follow the commanders of this country, the National Transitional Council (NTC)," which just moved from its stronghold in Benghazi to the capital.

Mabrok echoed calls from the NTC for policemen and public sectors employees in Tripoli to return to work and for Gadhafi loyalists to lay down their arms without fear of revenge.

"This was a revolution of freedom and Islam, so there shall be no revenge."

He said Gadhafi loyalists had lost their way but now have an opportunity to be stronger than their enemies. He said those who came forward would be treated with mercy and in accordance with the law.

"Everyone makes mistakes, even us...You are brothers. We are all Muslims." AFP

Atrocities by both sides bared

TRIPOLI, Libya—As the fighting died down in Tripoli on Friday (Saturday in Manila), the scope and savagery of the violence during the nearly week-long battle for control of the capital began to come into sharper focus.

Amnesty International said on Friday that it had evidence that forces loyal to Moammar Gadhafi had killed rebels who had been held in custody in two camps. In one camp, 53 detainees killed five detainees held in military confinement, and in another they opened the guns, telling the rebels they were free to go, then mowed prisoners and fired on the men as they tried to run for freedom.

The report, based on accounts from escaped prisoners, cited no death toll but said that of the 180 detainees attacked, only 23 were known to have escaped.

On Thursday, there were reports that the bodies of 150 bullet-ridden bodies of more than 100 pro-Gadhafi fighters had been found at a military encampment in central Tripoli. At least two were burned with plastic handcuffs, suggesting that they had been executed, and that the dead were found at a field hospital.

Mass bodies

More bodies turned up in the streets on Friday, where occasional volleys of gunfire were heard. Some Gadhafi's abandoned stashed, Bab al-Aaziya, which began flashing away into thousand bodies. The lure of one was so hotly denied it appeared ashamed.

Muggers crowded over the corpse of one man.

"Only a brother could commit a massacre like this," said Nuri Omar, a rebel.

He never dumped near a trash receptacle, two left under a mound of rubble in a corner of a large ditch, his hands apparently tied.

Rebels said Gadhafi loyalists had killed them as they retreated his hill. But no section and they were Gadhafi fighters, mainly rebels.

As he spoke, a rebel approached him, saying he was not authorized to speak.

In a sign of the intensity of the fighting this week in the capital, 50 bodies, many in advanced states of decomposition, were piled up in an abandoned hospital in the Abu Salim neighborhood, until Friday the personnel of the Gadhafi forces.

Sub-Saharan mercenaries

Most of the fighters were darker skinned than most Libyans, a sign, rebels there said, that they may have been recruited from sub-Saharan Africa. The rebels have frequently accused the Gadhafi personnel of using mercenaries but have not offered convincing proof.

The halls of the hospital were a chaos of beds and unplugged machines, and its floors were painted with blood. A medical technician said that those detained here had been on duty during the fighting in recent days, and that they had been unable to escape.

It was difficult to ascertain the fates of the dead men, who were lying in gutters mixed by maggots in a hospital room and the morgue. The relatives of one victim, Abdul Rasoul Al Rashdi, a 33-year-old police officer, said he had been killed by a sniper several days earlier in the Hay Andalus neighborhood.

Across the street, a group of residents running short of electricity and supplies but morning spree than in past days began pulling back the cloak of secrecy imposed by Gadhafi's municipal rule. Scores of perhaps well more carrying rebel fighters and the curious careened into Bab al-Aaziya.

Bombed in 1986 by the US military, the house had become a shrine of sorts to Gadhafi's leadership. Walls were covered with graffiti, scrawled over the years by visitors and delegations from Ghana, Kenya, Russia and elsewhere.

Hana's alive

Days after rebels from Misrata and other Libyan towns stormed the compound, new slogans had gone up.

"Libya is free," one read. "Misrata's steadfast," said another.

"This is our history," said Rida Said, 28, a resident of Tripoli, as he walked through the house. "Every tyrant has his end."

Another find at the compound offered what might be a strange twist on history. It appears for The Irish Times based documents there that connect the claim that the Libyan leader's adopted daughter Hana, who was supposedly killed at age 4 in the 1986 attack, was alive and had been working as a doctor. The paper said it found a medical school exam of hers along with a certificate from an English language course in which she received an A.

Others have reported seeing a spacious and well-appointed office at Tripoli's Central Hospital that workers there claimed was Hana Gadhafi's.

In need of money

On the diplomatic front, rebels said that Chief Jud began on a number their administration from Benghazi, the birthplace of the uprising, to the capital, Tripoli.

The rebel leadership has said it is badly in need of money to let it to accommodate a police and military force, collect weapons and stave off a more bloody reckoning with the defendants of Gadhafi's legacy.

In Turkey, Mahmoud Jibril, the de facto rebel prime minister of a leadership still moving to Tripoli, renewed an appeal for the release of frozen assets.

"How much a lot of money," he said on Friday in Istanbul. The leadership, he added, "needs to prove its powers by delivering the needs of the Libyan people."

He added, "Otherwise, there will be a high misery crisis."

Over the years, Gadhafi has spread Libya's oil wealth liberally among numerous African nations, winning the loyalty of their leaders, who fear they will not receive the same largesse under a new, more democratic government. New York Times News Service

GOLDEN COUCH A Libyan rebel poses on a golden mermaid couch belonging to Aisha Gadhafi, daughter of Moammar Gadhafi at her house in Tripoli. AFP

AMBULANCE Libyan rebel fighters carry a wounded Gadhafi loyalist sniper on a wheelbarrow during an attack on a building in Salah Eddine district in Tripoli on Friday. AFP

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OPINION

Staying power

SOMETIMES THE most meaningful and difficult thing a person can do is the simplest. When faced with more lucrative employment possibilities in other countries, the best of Filipino graduates from the medical field should have many easy offers coming their way. But then they choose an amazing yet intuitively correct thing. They choose to stay.

EDITORIAL

This is the example being set by two stars inside graduates of the University of the Philippines Manila, two persons who share two other things aside from a distinguished alma mater. They topped their respective board exams and they want to work at the state-run Philippine General Hospital rather than seek better-paying chances abroad.

Jamiel Lapidos is ranked No. 1 among the 78,135 examinees who took the nursing board exams conducted by the Professional Regulations Commission. Though nursing is no longer the surefire avenue to employment it was in past decades, landing atop the entire pile surely offers Lapidos fantastic additions to his curriculum vitae for possible foreign jobs. But a day after finding out just how well he did, Lapidos had already made up his mind: he is staying put.

"My family and friends are here," Lapidos, the son of a construction worker from Rodriguez, Rizal, said. Even as he worked as a tutor in math and sciences, Lapidos said that his priority after formally gaining his license would be to work at the overcrowded PGH in Manila. Too many patients, not enough doctors and nurses. He had done his on-the-job training there and he saw that the hospital catered to mostly impoverished patients who would not be able to afford private hospitals. "These are the people who really need help," he remembered thinking to himself. "[My classmates and I] were exposed to public hospitals and different communities," Lapidos said. "Though there are many hospitals, poor patients from the provinces still have to go to PGH [to afford the treatment]."

Lapidos also had a line to say about the current sorry state of the nursing profession where too many schools already churn out too many graduates with no real-life employment to look forward to, creating a surplus of nursing graduates estimated to be over 200,000. This is where government should get involved, he says.

It is Lapidos' belief that government should send nurses to the far-flung provinces of the Philippines to provide the most basic medical care instead of leaving them stranded in the ranks of the unemployed. They could do so much good elsewhere. "Why not send us to serve there?" he asked. "There are so many of us."

This same awe-inspired brand of conviction is shared by Mark Augustine Orgilus, who emerged No. 1 out of the 2,131 examinees who took the medical board exams. Like Lapidos, he too is staying right where he is. He also intends to apply for work at the PGH instead of trying his luck at more financially promising opportunities in other countries. To Orgilus, being blessed with such a test result leads him to take on a mission on his own, something he believes other medical graduates should also promote.

"It is not just about money but the people and then lives," Orgilus said of the prospect of choosing to toil at the PGH. "For me, it is more gratifying to treat our fellow Filipinos than go abroad and serve other nationalities. It feels good to practice medicine here where we are needed."

Both Lapidos and Orgilus seem to be uncertain when one considers just how difficult it is to make a proper living working for a government institution while staying on the straight and narrows. They both have the parents tab to make much more money working for a large, private medical institution or for a hospital in the United States or the United Kingdom.

We are taught to consider those Filipinos who work abroad as heroes, yet there is nobility in deciding to stay where they are most needed, a quiet courage to stand up for what—and whom—they believe in.

Perhaps this is an idea whose time has arrived.

And soon, that beautiful idea might just be contagious. Duglas revealed that others from his batch of aspiring physicians shared this idea of staying in the Philippines where they were most needed instead of going abroad. "Perhaps we have become aware of the brain drain and the lack of doctors and facilities in the country," he said. "We all want to help change this."

Somedone, the right place to be is exactly where you already are.

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Libya after Gadhafi

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

NOW THAT Libya's dictator, Col. Moammar Gadhafi, is being hunted down by his own people, he must be wondering what went wrong with his cultivated progress as to elevate his regime's image. In the last 10 years, Gadhafi went out of his way to befriend the West. He tried to impress upon the world that he was converting Libya in the direction of an open economy and a modern constitutional democracy.

After many years of denial and haughty indifference, he agreed to compensate the victims of a passenger plane that had been blown up by a Libyan agent. He reinvited back for visit investors into Libya's lucrative oil and gas industry. He offered himself as American as a secular ally in this troubled region in the battle against Islamic terrorism. To an increasingly xenophobic Europe, he projected himself as a reliable gatekeeper who would help stem the flow of African migrants from across the Mediterranean.

He seem his favorite son, Saif al-Islam, to study at the London School of Economics to specialize in political governance and the rule of civil society. He gave a generous donation to one of the school's research centers. He invited his son's professors, many of them renowned figures from British academia, to come to Tripoli to discuss ways the country's transition to a modern democratic polity. He commissioned a strategic consulting firm with done ties to Harvard to help conceptualize a role for civil society in global governance. He welcomed foreign visiting heads of state into the "new" Libya. The footages of the smiling Gadhafi who delighted in playing godfather to crowds, even in other places gave way to the measured pleasantries of a global social climber who aimed to be accepted by the West.

Through all these, Gadhafi sought to project the portrait of a statesman keenly attuned to the political needs of world society. This was the reverse of the image he had earned for himself in a previous incarnation—as the eccentric leader of a rich rogue state that used its vast oil wealth to fund various enemies of Western interests.

Since he had ruled Libya unchallenged for nearly 42 years, Gadhafi might have thought, in his delusional moments, that nothing respectable-looking modern world would be as tasty as having the services of an mercenary. But, he would have known that the Western powers were never interested in the political values, whatever that might have been at any given moment, but only in his country's oil resources.

Foreign investors need what they were offered in the early stage of this rapprochement, but their eyes were clawed on the more sizable they could seize for themselves in the right time. The promised business came with the taint of the Arab Spring, when young people from North Africa to the Middle East, began to use their mobile phones and computers as weapons to dare an apple or grab a stone in the running of their countries. One after the other, people pave the regimes replaced in the public screams of the region. Where the ruling stood by and hesitated or act against the unarmed crowds, as in Egypt, the fall of the government did not take very long. Tunisia quickly followed. Then the rebellion was spread to Morocco, Libya, Bahrain, Syria, Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

Gadhafi's army in Libya, consisting mainly of members of his tribe, stood by him. But his government was doomed by the defection of his top officials to the rebels who had captured the major city of Benghazi in the country's part of the country's. Poorly armed and loosely organized, the rebels overcame taken Gadhafi mounted his murderous campaign against all Libyans who dared to oppose him. On the initiative of the United States, the United Nations issued a mandate to stop this from slaughtering his own people. The UN let the fine to date to enforce a no-fly zone and to immobilize Gadhafi's killing machine. Then it handed over to Nato the implementation task of protecting civilians.

The western powers' liberal interpretation of this mandate has been astonishing. They took it as a license to bomb the Gadhafi regime out of existence. While the Libyan rebels on the ground lacked in weaponry and fighting skills, Nato forces then made up for by dismantling all strikes aimed at decapitating the Gadhafi regime. Soon the air strikes were targeting places where the dictator and his family were known to be staying.

By any reckoning, this has become a war of aggression against the government of a sovereign nation, using as cover the humanitarian concern to protect the lives of civilians in a country torn by civil war. What we have seen in Libya to be just five months is what everything we have been saying about the proper conduct of relations among nations. That Gadhafi has been a bad leader and deserving to be overthrown does not justify this termination. That we can identify with the aspirations of ultimately the main country from tyranny does not make the facts of foreign interventionist rights.

Someone said that if history, instead of oil, had been Libya's main product, it is doubtful if Europe and America would have bothered to carry out even a tiny fraction of the 7,468 bombing strikes they have launched in the name of the citizens, people. In the coming months, the cases of this foreign meddling may become clear as the country resumes its production and export of oil under new management. Right after the 1986 revolution, Gadhafi put a Libya's oil fields under state-owned control. No one ever the British and American loans from his country. One wonders how much of that investment's anti-colonial legacy will be preserved after Gadhafi.

***

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Losers

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a bold-up man who went behind a well-dressed man, stuck a gun to his head, and said, "Give me your money!" The man responded: "But can't do this. I am a congressman!" In that case, give me my money," the bold-up man replied.

***

In today's Gospel (Mt. 16, 21-27) Jesus reminds us: "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?"

How many people have lost their health, reputation, family, friends, values, and even their very souls due to the sake of money? Is it worth it all?

***

Money has a way of blinding people and making them believe that they are invincible. They begin to see everything and everyone with a price tag, and, everything and everyone can be bought. In doing so they distort people. What they don't realize is that they degrade themselves.

***

I wonder how people who are accused or branded as thieves, liars, or cheats feel? Or do they still feel or care at all? Money has a way of numbing the consciences and values of a person. The height of this arrogance is the thought that even God can be bought and manipulated with donations and "good deeds" on the side.

***

"But whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." By worldly standards, this statement is for losers and anyone who follows it is bound for failure. If not disaster. For the world, success is getting and having it all. For the follower of Christ, success is giving, and even losing it all, for His sake.

***

I have met all sorts of people in my lifetime, and I can say that the happiest people I have met are those who know how to find

away while the most miserable are those who just get and get. This may be applied to at your peoples, but I still believe that everyone is measured not so much by what we earn by our hands but by what we carry in our hearts.

***

"You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Indeed, herein lies the difference. That we'd has a different set of values and goals which go contrary to that of the Gospel. The choice is ours. The end result are is ours. In the end, when we choose the path of righteousness, we have that peace which the world cannot give or take away.

***

By the way, those who take the righteous in the straight path must realize that it is also the path of humility. Righteousness with one humility is self-righteousness, which could lead to unnecessary arrogance and pride. What I mean is that while righteousness must be compensated, that does not mean to say that it is unbending and unrelenting.

***

Journeying I texted back a friend who was inquiring about my whereabouts that I was in the ICU of Capitol Medical Center. Soon after, I received about 19 text messages inquiring if I was all right, all very concerned about my health. My reminder was that I made people know about I was, but forgot exactly how why I was there! A very good reminder for us all not to forget the why, the reason of our existence.

***

Who was I in the ICU to be with my ex-seminarian classmate Gilbert Aragon who just lost his 35-year-old daughter Michelle, who some five months earlier lost her 5-year-old son Matthew, to meningitis like these, there isn't much to say but to be present, and to make God present in the most painful moments of life, and to somehow give hope and meaning. Those who put their trust in money and riches indeed are fools. Those who put their trust in God are assured that there is meaning, there is a big picture, there is a plan.

***

There is true miracle, that totally mad which we and I will have to travel alone in our journey to God. At that point, no matter how much they want us, those who are drawn to us cannot go with us. Not even the best of friends, in the absence of limited and power can save us. May we not wait for those final moments to come before we hold on to our God.

***

"What will it profit a man/life here to win, though for every plaza I win, if going my way and doing my will, I lose what God planned for me?" (Anonymous)

***

Friends of the late Fr. Edwin Melvinder Jr., SVD, are invited to a memorial Mass today at 3 p.m. at Christ the King Seminary, Tagaytay-Nasugbu, Quezon City. That will be preceded by the launching of his life book "Words of Faith" at the Divine Word House Hall. Christ the King Seminary, tel. 7 (2) 6, 124 or remember and give thanks to Father Edwin, our young missionary who humbly and joyfully served our fellow Filipinos in Germany.

***

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, remind me that the biggest losers in this world are those who have lost their way such is their pursuit of the world. Amen.

Do not degrade judicial standards

WITH DUE RESPECT

Antonio V. Pangalangan

I CANNOT fathom why Aedo Rep. Niel C. Tupas Jr., chair of the committee on justice of the House of Representatives and ex-officio member of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC), wants to water down the standards in screening applicants for appointments to or promotions within the judiciary and to the Office of the Ombudsman (OMB).

Minimum qualities. The JBC is the agency mandated by the Constitution to list at least three names from which the president of the Philippines appoints members, judges and high OMB officials. Once nominated by the JBC and appointed by the president, the appointees undergo no screening and confirmation by the Commission on Appointments.

In a closed door, Tupas is proposing to do away with the JBC Rules that unnecessarily disqualify for appointment or promotion (1) applicants "with pending criminal or regular administrative cases," and (2) those involved in administrative cases and penalized "with a fine of more than P10,000."

Members of constitutional bodies are not disqualified under item (1). Tupas suggests that they should still be nominated if in "the determination of the Council," the charges are not "serious or grave as to affect the fitness of the applicant" for the position applied for.

Example. As pointed out by Court Administrator Jose Midas P. Marquez in his Aug. 19 letter to the JBC, placing on the Council the discretion on whether to disqualify applicants with pending criminal or regular administrative cases defeats the purpose of the rule. There is no limitation to nomination process from undue influence of any kind" or "from the shackles of friendship, relationship..." and "partisan politics."

Worse still, before an applicant is considered "formally charged" in the administrative case (and therefore disqualified from appointment or promotion under the existing JBC Rules), the disciplining authority (usually the Office of the Court Administrator) would have had already preliminarily investigated the charges and found them prima facie meritorious.

Indeed, in the judiciary, on the other hand, it is almost presumptive that an applicant is considered "formally charged" only after the proper officials have found probable cause, pursuant to the Rules of Court. So, there is no need for the JBC to determine again the validity of the formal charges and whether or not they affect the fitness of the applicant for the position or promotion applied for.

With regard to item (2), Tupas suggests that only those meted out "a fine of more than P10,000" should be disqualified. Thus, those fined P10,000 or less can be considered for appointment or promotion. In effect, the antigraft court would be merely done guilty of "serious charges" that are penalized with a fine of P10,000 or more. He would unleash on hapless litigants those who have been found guilty of what are referred to as "less serious charges" and meted out fines of P10,000 or less.

To understand what these "less serious charges" are, let me give some examples: (a) "undue delay in rendering a decision or order"; (b) "unsatisfactory performance"; and (c) "incurring additional unsatisfactory performance." The latter is simply that justice delayed is justice denied, and yes, Judge would still show those found guilty of violating this elementary duty to be appointed or promoted. Error can't a judge who pinches him or a solicitor be promoted as a justice? Undoubtedly! And how can someone who cheats and gives unauthorized compensation be selected and presented from leadership to our judicial system?

Higher standards needed. Instead of lowering down judicial standards, the JBC should aim for higher ones especially now that cronyism and virus in the judiciary has been noted as how by our people as shown by surveys of SWS and Pulse Asia. The JBC must not interpret new standards; they have been cast in stone by our Constitution, which authorizes only all members of the judiciary to have "proven competence, integrity, probity and independence."

The JBC would do well to hear its ex-officio chairman, Chief Justice Renato C. Corona, who in a speech days ago, said that he was "seriously bothered by reports suggesting to limit the threshold of disqualifications for nomination to the judiciary."

Retired Chief Justice Antonio S. Pano emphasized the JBC as to "believe in the screening process" of applicants for the judiciary. "Honest-to-goodness and judges whom I spoke with attest the same observations. "Please do not degrade the standards by relieving magistrates." For his part, former Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. cautioned, "The JBC should not allow other agents to taint the Caesar's wife to above suspicion and must be screened strictly." SC justices, the Sereno Lucas and former Solicitor General Cruz.

In the next few weeks, the JBC will be conducting public hearings on three proposals of Tupas. Hopefully, the JBC members will not only reject the JBC members will vote on them. For the record, the JBC is composed (aside from the Chief Justice and Tupas) of Senior Secretary Leila de Lima, Sen. Chiz Escudero, with the following regular members: Associate Justice Arturo D. Brion, Atty. Maria Milagros N. Fernan Laurel, Atty. Jose Mario C. Bautista, Justice Aurora S. Lagman, lawyer Rhoda Bernardo Carreon and lawyer Jose V. Mejia.

I hope the JBC will throw down the proposals. Better still, I respectfully urge Tupas to withdraw his move so as not to stain his sterling reputation as a good and well-intentioned leader in the impeachment of former Ombudsman Merceditas N. Gutierrez.

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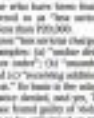
An 'education city' in Clark



AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

JOE FERNANDEZ was cleaning with friends at the students' common area of the Clark Filipino Center when he noticed a man in his room, with little prodding, he told us his story.

He had been for many years an OFW based in Israel ("but as a caregiver but as a heavy machinery operator," he chuckled) but when his contract ran out, he was forced to come home. While here, he was looking for work in Australia when he came on announcement from a recruiting agency for workers willing to work in Australian mines. Contacting the agency, he was interviewed and screened down here to Clark/Alimentos City (CDC) where he was put through a battery of medical and skills training before being deployed abroad by Baritinan, the Australian mining firm that is recruiting sponsoring his training.

Asked how much he expects to earn, he tells us he'll have a basic salary but those working in the mines for more years and he tells us he earns the equivalent of P1 million a month!" If he does well in Australia, he says, he could initially earn some P500,000 monthly. Our jaws drop in unison. Where, and are journalists our true court again, are we? Australia, indeed, is the land of opportunity.

A native of Negros, Joe has been married for 15 years, "but if you are together all the time I have spent with my wife and children, it would be just five years," he reminisces, with a tone of sadness. But he says, even if he functions as a single parent, one has ensured that up to seven years with an option to bring over his family there, he has no plans of staying in Australia permanently. At 40, he says, he is growing on in years, and being diabetic, he doesn't see himself working for much longer. "I plan to go back home and finally join my family for good," he says.

* * *

JOE may be part of the decades-long diaspora that has seen millions of our country's best and brightest set virtually all walks of life and a huge fraction of Filipino workers and professionals around the world they have started as a "brain drain," but in people like Joe, who is a vocational school graduate, it has also afforded them a chance to rise above poverty and give their families a shot at a better life and future.

Incidentally, Joe's story, on the other hand, is a mixed proceedings, as applicant is considered "formally charged" only after the proper officials have found probable cause, pursuant to the Rules of Court. So, there is no need for the JBC to determine again the validity of the formal charges and whether or not they affect the fitness of the applicant for the position or promotion applied for.

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Comment: to info@antoniopangalangan.blogspot.com

Who'll win the clean energy revolution?

LONDON—AFTER less than a year and a half in which so much energy news seemed trending—nuclear meltdowns, oil spills, rising gas prices—it might be startling to find out that wind/fossil-installed capacity of renewable energy has now surpassed that of nuclear power. In fact, global investments in clean energy driven by enlightened, forward-looking national policies, grew to a record $243 billion in 2010, up 30 percent from the previous year.

WORLD VIEW

Phyllis Cuttino and Michael Liebreich

Indeed, in less than a decade, clean energy has grown from a niche industry on a significant source of trade, investment, manufacturing and job creation. Since 2004, annual investments in the sector has increased by an impressive 630 percent. We need to ensure that this encouraging trend continues.

The emergence of the clean energy sector reflects national policies—from research to financing to tariff incentives—in the world's largest economies. Those measures, which still pale in comparison to what is granted to conventional fossil fuels, have helped to reduce the unit costs of renewable energy and open up markets. We are not far from the day when clean energy can compete head-to-head with coal, oil and gas.

In many places, wind energy is already competitively priced, and it has attracted almost half of all G-20 clean energy investments in recent years, fueling the addition of some 40 gigawatts of generating capacity—enough to power 10 million homes.

The solar sector is the fastest-growing clean energy industry. It is the global economic prize of solar panels have declined by more than 60 percent in the last 30 months. By the end of this year, it is expected that solar power will be "as cheap as they did four years ago. The 17 GW of solar generation capacity that was added in 2010 from investments totaling $79 billion could power more than 13.5 million homes.

Geographically, recent research by The New Charitable Fund and Bloomberg New Energy Finance reveals that the huge investments to build the world's wind turbines, amounting to $64.4 billion in 2010, a 25 percent gain over 2009, investment in Germany more than doubled, to $41.2 billion, surpassing the United States to take second place globally, both area in fourth place (up from eighth in 2009), attracting almost $13 billion in investment. From the world's top 10, after annual investment grew 23 percent, to $45 billion.

The research also demonstrates that Europe's consistent policies have a well positioned to compete in the clean energy sector. Investors want to be sure that there will be ongoing demand for renewable energy. The European Union's groundbreaking climate change legislation, the 20-20-20 initiative and has to satisfy under which utilities guarantee to pay a fixed rate for most energy).

For example, European policies are driving an explosion in small-scale, distributed solar power generation. Investment in these projects doubled to $9.6G to $20.4 billion globally, with most poured into the EU, more than half into Germany alone.

Germany also is demonstrating that sound clean energy policies can drive not only dramatic investment and installations, but also job-creating and export opportunities. Last fall, Germany's environment ministry reported that renewable-energy jobs had doubled since 2006, to 340,000, thanks to the country's investments in education, training, research, and innovation.

Owing to high prices for conventional energy and abundant solar resources in the form of sunny and plentiful, so can competitiveness, for solar energy. Easy-use projects of by private clean energy investment was directed toward small-scale projects in 2010, yet what is nothing to the habitat manufacturers have almost entirely failed to cater to the economics of the developing world.

Moreover, Europe's global clean-energy leadership is being challenged by Asia, where private investments, powered largely by China's surge, is growing faster, indeed, among individual countries, China is the world leader, attracting $54.4 billion in investment in 2010. In the space of just a few years, China has become the leading destination for private investment and manufacturing of related equipment.

Last year, China added a staggering 17 GW of wind power capacity, and now produces half of the world's wind and solar equipment, in part to meet its own highly ambitious clean energy goals. By 2015, China plans to have 150 GW of wind power and 20 GW of solar power by 2020. China has already surpassed the US in total new wind in installed clean-energy capacity.

But China is not alone in pushing Asia to the global frontiers. India, too, entered the ranks of the top-10 countries for clean energy investment in 2010. However, the most dramatic growth rate for renewable energy capacity also comes from the worldwide, and the country was seventh in terms of installed capacity. With a target of 20 GW of solar generating capacity by 2020, investments in India could grow rapidly.

The world of the next 15 years will be changed with the Development Bank is right in the Gulf of Mexico, followed by the embrace in North Africa and the tragedy in Japan, confirm the world with a stark choice between the costs and risks of traditional energy sources and the promise and progress of clean energy.

In other countries, Europe has been a driving force for energy modernization. In the years ahead, such leadership will be needed to help capture the economic, environmental and security benefits of renewable energy. Reaffirming its commitment to rapid decarbonization of its energy system, and in particular its strong support of this goal, will help Europe continue to reap the rewards of one of the most remarkable economic opportunities in living memory. Project Syndicate

Phyllis Cuttino is director of the Clean Energy Program at The Pew Charitable Trusts. Michael Liebreich is CEO of Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

Our youth: hope or disaster?

COMMENTARY

Roberto P. N. Rivera, S.J.
John J. Carroll Institute on Church and Social Issues

WORLD YOUTH has always cookies for the memories of a narrowly averted disaster. As a last-ditch presidential intervention resulting in the Aurora de Resistencia, World Youth Day had its 1995 edition with shepherding my homeroom students during the seemingly vigil and concluding Mass for the World Youth Day celebration in Manila. That Real Mass at Luneta Park is now famous for having garnered the biggest crowd in history—over 5 million people, by some reckoning—for a papal event. I recall how my students and I got stuck in the middle of the multitudes pressing forward to get a closer glimpse of the Pope. There were no security-related incidents or attempts to regulate the human traffic in sight. I was intrigued with fear of a stampede ensuing and my students being smashed underfoot by the rabble.

Once the mass began, however, the crowds stopped surging toward the stage and settled down for a truly moving homage to the Eucharist blessed John Paul II. As days went, the spirit of the youth had prevailed, with everyone, young and old, alike, rejuvenated in spirit.

But we had 15 years later, and now as a middle-aged person, I recalled all these memories that surrounded the recent World Youth Day vigil signalled by the Archdiocese of Manila at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex grounds. This gathering was meant to be a parallel event to the just-concluded World Youth Day in Madrid. Once again, my life and thoughts were to be shared with a new generation of a different kind: a climate of indifference. I asked myself: Would our youth still be interested in such public displays of religious fervor? Given the fleeting attention span of the young, would an energetic vigil generate enough interest to delegate a contingent to the main event?

Again I was pleasantly surprised. I arrived at the vigil grounds where thousands of youth had gathered, undeterred by the famous rainstorm that a few hours earlier had fled. I helped out in handing out rosaries and soup (past midnight, I was impressed with the earnest attempts of the young to live good and meaningful lives.

These memories and events have prompted me to take stock of the fundamental attitudes we have regarding our youth. Sadly, it seems the easiest diagnosis links youth when it comes to the larger social notions we have for our economy and our world. Another view them with distrust and trepidation, a perspective formed wanting to oppress.

But our collective attitude and the hanging of the youth has become an unquestioned hazard of years by a college teacher. I often bewail the deterioration of reading and writing skills among the young, my colleagues and I constantly lump on how our students can be energetic and unimaginative, ready to plod anything from homeworks and pass it off as their own work, in this age of abbreviated texting and "hipspeak" forms of expression, it is terribly easy to dismiss the current generation as mediocre and indifferent to higher learning.

As a priest involved in social development, I usually find myself within circles where the youth are chastised for their lack of commitment to the ideals of justice and peace. I remember forums organized in the 1990s among non-government organizations to discuss the "projects" for the "lazy and ungrateful" in the development work. Many of these meetings would often turn, in my fantasy, with teachers in the NGO set fuming about how the young have no feeling to the ideals set by the pioneers in the field. How I find myself running along the same lines, as it relates the issues with our students. Are we not all guilty of this? Do we not all wish the ranks of civil-minded workers rather than considering alternative views?

And finally, as a parent, I am often approached by the elderly who decry the lack of morals and values in the society we live in. Even the young people I teach worry that the children of their friends are making serious inroads in the morals of their parents.

The problem with these attitudes is twofold. First, in distancing ourselves, we basically end up glorifying our generation as a mythical "golden age" which the young are never equal. Second, and perhaps more seriously, such attitudes make it convenient for us to disbelieve our obligations to the young. We could, now be our future, but for the moment they are not our concern. Such attitudes and comings they have are issues purely of our making, and the promises they hold are for us to fulfill.

One brings from the Inner World Youth Day in Manila I passionately disagreed in local subsidiary organizations, but one for the unrelated hope that we would bring. It is a picture of young pilgrims kneeling in prayer, even as they are being assisted by Spanish gendarmes adjusting on the response in-school in the papal site. Perhaps it is this social-first commitment to the faith that led Pope Benedict XVI to declare that "World Youth Day is also a chance for young people—...to pray together and to renew their commitment to live their own Christian Christ, the Faithful Friend." Others deny reasons for being in society by carrying the hope that "voices of faith."

Are this youth our hope or are they an impending disaster? The choice is ours to make.

THEY SAID

Unfortunate

"It is unfortunate that this happened. We did everything."

—Air safety liaison investigator Jovenal Pantaleon said after the Philippine Airlines flight 812 plunged on runway 13 "uncontrolled" over the four-meter-deep seawall and broke apart on it. Lalo's Retrieval Center

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to ...
Editor Juan F. Hernandez Jr.

What we can do to fight DENGUE

NEARLY two years ago, Christine E.V. Gonzales, a naturopathic medicine practitioner with a Ph.D. in natural health and holistic nutrition, faced death from dengue.

At the wake of two young girls—ages 11 and 14—who died of dengue, she embarked on an advocacy on the prevention and control of the viral disease through health education. She has written her third book—"Dengue Fever on the Rise"—from which this article is excerpted.

Gonzales emphasizes that there is no single cure-all plant or drug in the management and control of dengue fever. While there is no vaccine (yet) to prevent infection or drug treatment for those infected, early diagnosis and a combination of measures will and can prevent dengue death.

In addition, she issues this advisory:

- Don't take the Tylenol brand of paracetamol or acetaminophen when you have dengue, but take Biogesic which is a milder form of paracetamol instead.

Tylenol has been found to be toxic to the liver, and since dengue virus causes transitory hepatitis, using it has caused sudden, severe and unexplicably induced hepatitis, which is believed to have caused some deaths.

- Avoid over-the-counter (OTC) like aspirin and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) like ibuprofen. They can increase the risk of bleeding.
- Whenever possible, it is best to go to the hospital if you have dengue. Dengue may require blood and/or platelet transfusion and often intravenous hydration.

Climbing back to health

By Christine E.V. Gonzales, MD, Ph.D.

I NEVER thought for a moment that I would be deeply involved with a campaign to stop dengue mortality until I was infected with the virus. Five days before Christmas of 2009, I woke up feeling as though I just came out from the mouth of a volcano.

My body was on fire with high fever. Every bone, muscle and organ in my body hurt, my glands were swollen and my pulse was racing. Headache and sore throat added to the symptoms.

I took homeopathic remedies, started a vitamin C drip, sponge bathed with essential oils, received lomi-lomi, drank Dengue Juice, vegetable juices and soups, coconut water, herbal teas, etc.) every 30 minutes and immediately did a CBC (complete blood count).

I was very confident that whatever it was that attacked my system would go away in less than a day. Instead, the nightmare began!

On the third day, I felt that something was very wrong. Due to the high fever, I was in and out of consciousness. The result of my telemedicine indicated that my kidneys were beginning to fail.

My added creatinine and BUN to the daily CBC tests. My platelet count was down. My hemoglobin, RBC (red blood cells) and WBC (white blood cells) numbers were fluctuating almost every day. All my lab tests and a doctor friend confirmed that I had the dengue virus.

On the fifth day, my body was numb from pain. I remembered back in 2005, as a field doctor, I processed a lot of local herbs. One of them was sambong (Blumea balsamifera). I started drinking it as a recovery tonic. I included sweet potato tops and moringa (malunggay) leaves in all my soups and juices.

On the seventh day, I was just waiting for something to happen. There must be a reason why I survived the dengue virus. What was it? All of the sudden, full realization hit me.

How can the people, especially children, fight this nasty virus? I was still vulnerable to it, despite my vibrant health. What more for the rest of the community, who rarely pay attention to their health unless there are emergencies?

Thus began my campaign for zero-dengue communities.

How to fight and contain it

+Keep hydrated

Patients need to replenish lost body fluids to help lower body temperature and to prevent the occurrence of hypovolumeic shock, a condition in which one's blood and fluid loss makes the heart unable to pump enough blood to the body.

What to drink:

+Purified water, coconut water and other healthy drink preparations:

Mineral water, turmeric water, herbal water (with lemongrass, lemon grass, mint)

Coconut water was my main source of fluid when I had the dengue fever. Coconut juice replenishes electrolytes, minerals and other trace elements lost by the body to dehydration.

+Vegetable juices—carrots, cucumber, camote tops, papaya leaves, moringa juice and other green leafy vegetables.

Studies show that pure organic vegetable juices provide all the basics of human nutrition.

+Fruit juices—guyabano, papaya, pomelo, oranges, guava, dalandan

+Food nutrition

Adequately feeding your immune system boosts its fighting power.

Top eight nutrients to add to your family's diet

1. Vitamin C may be the single most important nutrient for the immune system essential for the formation of adrenal hormones and the production of white blood cells. It also has a cell-level effect on bacteria and viruses. It's learning that Vitamin C from food sources.

2. Vitamin E is an important antioxidant and immune booster that also assists the production of natural killer cells.

3. Carotenoids...this carotene increases the number of infection-fighting T-cells, natural killer cells and helper T-cells. It is also a powerful antioxidant that helps us excess free radicals. Caution: Too much vitamin A supplements can be toxic to the body. There is no toxic amount of beta carotenes (carrots, squash, etc) is obtained from foods. Most vitamin and mineral supplements in the market are synthetic.

4. Bioflavonoids—A group of phytonutrients that aids the immune system by protecting the cells of the body against pollutants.

5. Zinc. This mineral increases the production of white blood cells that fight infection and helps them fight more aggressively.

Caution: Too much zinc in the form of supplements (more than 15 milligrams a day) can inhibit immune function. It's safest to stick to getting zinc from your diet.

6. Garlic. This stimulates the multiplication of infection-fighting white cells, boosts natural killer cell activity and increases the efficiency of anti-body production.

7. Selenium. Essential for virtually immune system. It assists the body in defending itself against harmful bacteria and viruses. Selenium helps stimulate prostaglandins that are important in regulating blood pressure and dealing with inflammations, and is vital in the production of the enzyme, glutathione peroxidase, which helps detoxify the body.

8. Omega-3 fatty acids. A study found that children taking a half teaspoon of flax oil a day experienced fewer and less severe respiratory infections. Tuna and salmon are among the richer sources of omega-3 fatty acids.

+Herbal teas

Herbal teas are considered point water with active herbs, minerals, vitamins. They have been used for thousands of years to help cure all types of afflictions.

Herbal teas can be prepared hot and steamy or chilled, with a little honey, a slice of kalamansi, coconut sugar or molasses. Below are herbal tea blends for dengue fever. Dengue fever is a lymphatic fever. They are not just for fever but also for participants and lymphatic/lymph detoxification.

- Ingestion of lemon tea tree increases platelet count. Morning with a local village doctor, we had 15 dengue patients on a small facility. We gathered lemon tea tree leaves, roots included, and prepared tea outside the facility.

How to prepare lemon tea tree:

- Take seven to nine young lemon tea tree plants. Wash thoroughly. (You may include the roots).
- Bring to a boil one liter of purified water. Turn down the heat to the lowest setting, add the lemon tea plants and boil for one to two minutes to a slow rolling boil. Cool.
- Try dengue fever patient should sip 1 to 1 ½ glasses of the concoction every hour for 24 hours.

Other herbal infusions: neem (Azadirachta indica) leaves tea, olive (Olea europaea) leaf tea, gotu kola (Centella asiatica) tea.

+Aromatherapy (essential oils)

Aromatherapy uses natural distilled extracts from aromatic plants in treating the body, mind and spirit. As a holistic medicine, it is both a preventive approach and an active treatment during acute and chronic stages of illness or disease.

The oils are powerful antibacterial, antiviral, antifungal and are very effective in repelling harmful insects.

- **Steam inhalation**—Eucalyptus, rosemary, tea tree and lavender. The warmth of steam inhalation can be very helpful for a child suffering from a fever combined with chills.
- **Direct application.** Gentle massage oils (the tea tree and lavender) can be applied directly on the skin and have a very cooling effect. Mist a washcloth with cool water, add a drop of essential oil on the cloth and use it to wipe a feverish child's head, chest and abdomen to relieve a hot or sweaty fever, providing a cooling relief that could be a restless child settle down to sleep.
- **Bath.** Bathing, using essential oils (peppermint, lavender or tea tree and oregano [for adults]), is one of the best remedies for fever and can tremendously increase therapeutic effects.
- **Sponge bath** with the same essential oils. In the absence of a bath tub and/or presence of a runny, high fever, sponge bath the child/patient three to four times a day.
- **Inhalation** of two to three drops of essential oil—peppermint, lavender or eucalyptus—on a tissue helps in any upper respiratory problems, sinuses and/or dizziness.
- **Diffusing** essential oils—peppermint, lavender, geranium, orange or tea tree—using a clay terra cotta, ceramic, metal or candle diffuser. A nebulizer is, perhaps, the best type of essential oil diffuser.

+Massage using an antiseptic and anti-inflammatory massage oil blend will help reduce pain, decrease pains, itching, inflammation and swelling. Use basil, chamomile, lavender, pepper leaf or tea tree essential oils, added to a base oil like virgin coconut oil, olive oil or mineral oil (malunggay) oil.

Choose a time of the day that is right, soft and soothing for the skin. Use organic coconut oil because oil is healing or candles both for internal and external use benefits.

+Botanical insecticides

Insecticides of botanical origin have been experienced as useful for the control of insect pests. Neem and its derived products as well as citronella, lemon grass, basil, geranium, cinnamon and eucalyptus have shown a variety of strong insecticidal properties.

A mixture of lemon-kalamansi are effective, non-the-mosquito repellent.

+Homeopathic remedies

Homeopathy is an advanced system of natural medicine that has been bringing healing to the world for over 200 years.

The homeopathic system of medicine can treat and prevent dengue fever and dengue hemorrhagic best by-immune modulation of the patients without any side effects.

+Herbal supplements

Health practitioners, nutritionists and scientists agree that the best sources of multivitamins and minerals are organic foods.

However, there is not enough of any particular nutrient from food presents a challenge due to processing or cooking food and the depletion of nutrients in the soil from overapplication of pesticides and/or genetic modification.

To counteract these we want to know the best multivitamins and minerals on the market, we have put together a three-tough research on some whole-food supplements.

+Rest and sleep

Rest is the best way to treat headache, fever and lethargy associated with dengue fever. The illness usually lasts 10 to 14 days, but symptoms, most notably lethargy, can last up to a month.

Sleep is the best way to recharge the body. Research shows that the immune system needs 8.5 hours of sleep in total darkness to recharge completely.

Anti-dengue awareness campaign in comics

1. Some 100 million people around the world fall ill with dengue every year, according to the World Health Organization. Dengue cases grow by 80 to 300 percent annually, especially in urban parts of the Philippines. **Dengue is an acute infectious viral disease that can kill.** The virus is transmitted by aedes mosquitoes.

2. Symptoms: Headache, vomiting, high temperature, flushed facial, muscle and joint pain, pain around the eyes and skin blotches. **The disease is usually misdiagnosed as the flu.** That's why it is not treated on time. Don't delay; consult a medical practitioner.

3. Early treatment is important to prevent death from dengue. Have a CBC so that your platelet count can be determined. Purchase dengue when your platelet count is low. It thins happens, go immediately to emergency room. Don't take aspirin and NSAID as these help increase bleeding.

4. Water ice from lomi-lomi (Euphorbia hirta) and young kamote (sweet potato) leaves. Make juice from two pieces leaves and drink it. Plant moringa, lemon and citronella in your backyard so you can use their leaves for incense. **(Note: The Department of Health has not endorsed these things yet.)**

5. Clean surroundings. Ensure that there is no stagnant water in flower pots, plastic bags, tires, cans, bottles and gutter where mosquitoes can breed. Ensure that water channels are not clogged. Fill up potholes so that they won't collect water.

6. Rest. Take nutritious food and like can get. Take paracetamol and have a good rest as soon as that the fever would subside. Go to a hospital to find out whether you have dengue hemorrhagic fever. Your fever could be effect of your platelet count drops precipitously. Protect yourself with mosquito nets, screens and **domestic insect repellents**.

7. Boost the immune system by eating vegetables and fruits. Drink copious amounts of water, coconut juice and herbal tea. Also take supplements like vitamins C, E, B, B6, folic acid and minerals. Avoid body exposure to diseases.

8. Dengue super heroes

Frogs, lizards, fish and dragonflies that kill thousands of A'e A'e mosquito larvae) and mosquitoes are adversely affected by herbicides, pesticides and other poisonous chemicals. Don't, a potent poison, poses a threat to children. The best way to fight dengue is to **kill mosquito larvae**.

About the book: **"Dengue Fever on the Rise"** will be available soon in National Book Stores nationwide. For inquiries, please call The Healing Station (02-421-1194 / 02-726-2261 / 0917-533-4165; (032); or visit www.dengueprevention.com.

Dutch treat to upland Negrenses: Flowing water

From page 10

ator Indigenous Development Demokratic Inc. (NIDEI), one of this year's recipients of the Ramon Magsaysay award.

Considered the Asian equivalent of the Nobel Prize, the award is being given to AEIPI (the lone recipient from the Philippines this year), as well as to five individual honorees from Indonesia, India, and Cambodia. The awarding ceremony is set on Aug. 31 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

Pinoy at heart

He hailed from Holland, but the 48-year-old Idoraga said he had become a Filipino at heart, more so after he married Jeanes, a Negrense. Like him, their four children speak fluent Hiligay- "no Dutch or English" spoken in their household here, he said.

"When I left, I don't look at myself and I don't see my bulky (skin color)," Idoraga said. "I look at myself as an Iwanderalan, but my heart is with the Filipinos."

AEIPI's development work has so far centered on promoting the corn germ, but Idoraga and the group's 20 full-time Filipino members are also developing other self-sustaining technologies, such as one that processes lemon grass into essential oils.

AEIPI was formed in 1991 by a group of scientists led by some organic-ist Leandro Batocha, who chaired his dreams of an "intergal and liberating development" with Idoraga.

Their partnership was forged against a backdrop of social turmoil that accompanied the collapse of the sugar industry in Negros in the 1980s, thousands of workers and farmers were then displaced, their families sinking deeper into poverty and hunger.

Distrust, suspicion

AEIPI sought to address the basic needs of the affected farmers through agricultural production and technology development, but lack of funds and the loss of key members forced the organization to close shop after only a few years.

Idoraga said this was partly due to the distrust and suspicion among the upland villagers initiated even government organizations (NGOs) like AEIPI.

"We had to work really hard for funding because of the bad name NGOs got especially in Negros. In the 1980s when the programs were not implemented well, there were so many NGOs that mushroomed," he said. "We worked without funding for many years. And there was no government support."

At that point, returning from a brief visit to his native Holland, Idoraga resolved to revive AEIPI, this time giving the group a much clearer focus on natural technology. He came up with his own design of the corn pump and had it patented.

The corn pump uses the natural kinetic energy of flowing water from rivers or springs to push water uphill, without relying on gas or electricity.

The "reinvented" pump introduced by the AEIPI to the Negros uplands can bring water to an elevated reservoir at 1,500 to 72,000 liters per day, according to Idoraga.

Social package

The pump itself accounts for only 10 percent of the cost of the entire "social package" the group brings to the community that would avail itself of the technology.

The package also includes construction consultation and technical training, ownership transfer, and the setup of local associations that would manage the water generation and distribution systems, as well as financing.

AEIPI also receives donations or grants from businesses, banks and the government, Idoraga said. So unlike, "we're talking with Coca-Cola about producing 10 corn pumps a year and they would be paying for them," he said.

"Landbank is now picking up the technology and offering it to municipalities through loans. We also get some money from the Department of Agriculture for research," he added.

While most of its projects are in Negros, up to 180 AEIPI initiatives have taken root across the Philippines. The group also managed to set up projects in Cambodia, Afghanistan, Nepal, Malaysia, East Timor, Costa Rica, Peru and even East World countries like Japan and France.

Idoraga said the introduction of the corn pump often became the "triggering point" for development in the communities, like in the case of Sitio Amargos in Manlot, Hagnaya Ormilmil.

The small village remained poor despite being placed under land reform in the 1980s, he recalled. "The road was very bad. It was very hard for the villagers to cultivate the land. There were no facilities and the community was not organized. They were very much like an survival mode; it was just everybody for himself and there was occasional conflict."

Organized for first time

"Then we came in with the corn pump," Idoraga said. "It was the first time the community had any experience of any kind. We completely organized the farmers association."

"Then from one village, we got a request from the neighboring village. Then there was a third. So it became three sitios. There's more cooperation because water came from the same place," he said.

And soon, the water association in Amargos started exploring other development projects, he said. With the household paying P20 per month for the water, the community found itself with enough funds to go into hog raising and mah enga.

"In the past, this kind of thing never happened in the community. Now they have started cooperating. Even their water drinking of Bonbon development," he said.

City dwellers tend to take water for granted, he said, but in the uplands, "you have to imagine how the people have to go down 60 meters to fetch water, every day. Try it yourself and carry 40 liters of water on your back."

"Some times kids missed classes because whenever their parents went down to fetch water, the kids would just end up playing and forget about school," Idoraga said.

Affectionate people

Idoraga said he was drawn to the Philippines as a young man of 22, after hearing many stories about the country when he was still working as a seafarer.

After two decades of living in the Philippines with his family, he said, "I don't know the difference anymore between living here and in Holland. Everything here is normal for me now."

Filipinos, Idoraga said, are an affectionate people. "The first thing they do is look at the color (of my skin), but then when we start talking, they warm up, and connect. They keep on coming back to talk. It becomes a friendship. Very warm."

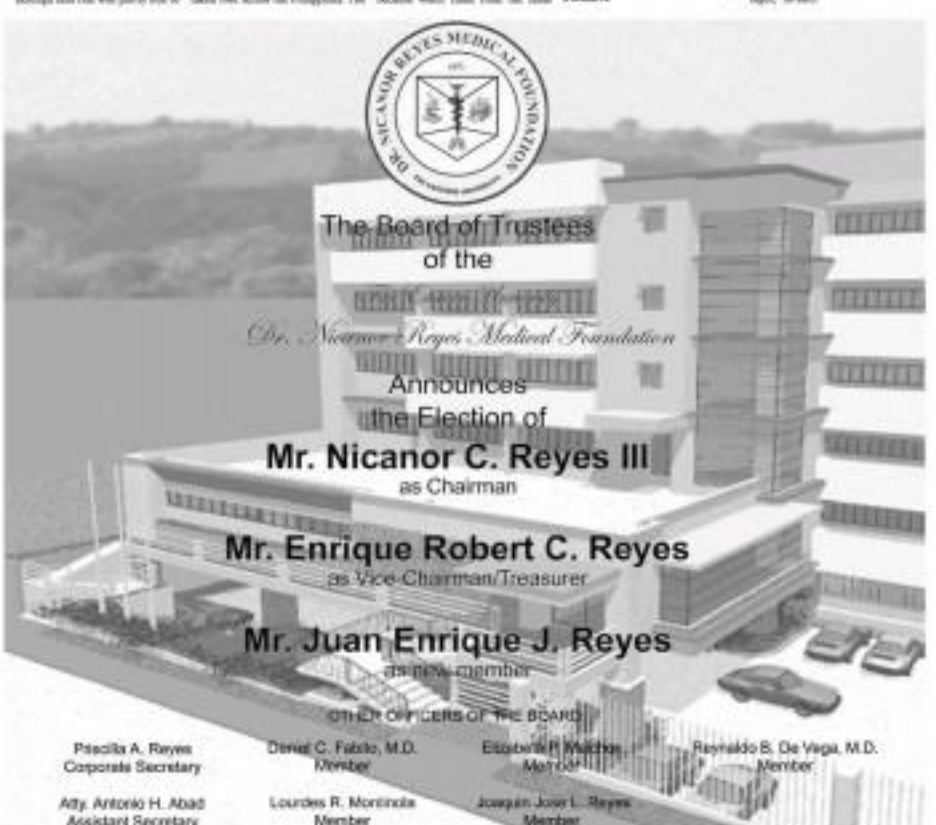
Because of this connection, he said, he had taken great pride in improving the lives of the country's poorest, especially in places hardly reached by government services.

"The best part is we can bring up water or such wellness for every family, and they don't have to go down the mountain anymore, that's a huge, unbelievable (transformation)," Idoraga said.

The Ramon Magsaysay Award, Idoraga said, would give his organization a bigger voice for its advocacy. "It fits in our highest objective, which is to spread the (corn pump) technology all over the world. Winning this award will help us reach more villages," he said.

ALMO ILLENGA: People in the uplands go down 80 meters to fetch water daily.

HALF-FORGOTTEN TECHNOLOGY: Hydraulic ram pump uses the natural kinetic energy of flowing water from rivers or springs.



Priest accused of rape relieved of duties

By Franklin Caligan
Inquirer Mindanao

BUTUAN CITY—The parish priest of Tubay, Agusan del Norte, who was arrested by a 17-year-old girl of rape and other sexual abuses has been relieved of his duties and placed under the custody of his superior, a women's group said.

Sr. Lisa Linahon, secretary general of Gabriela in Caraga, said that removing Cabonce from the Tubay parish was not enough.

"It is not enough to transfer the erring priest to another parish where he can still violate other girls. He should be made accountable for his acts under the state's laws as well as Church laws," she said.

Linahon said the ordeal of the victim, who was identified only as Leah, showed "[her] exploitation and abuse never ends in places that are safe."

"We are saddened that the crimes happened within the very institution that is supposed to uphold morality. The priest exploited Leah's trust and violated her despite her young age," Linahon said in a statement.

The alleged victim filed on Thursday rape, acts of lasciviousness and child abuse charges against Cabonce before the Agusan del Norte prosecutor's office.

She claimed that Cabonce abused her on five different occasions since September last year.

Cabonce has repeatedly denied the allegations during recent interviews, dismissing them as "trumped-up" charges concocted by his detractors.

He did not elaborate, saying he would answer the allegations in due time.

Linahon said that based on the account of the victim, Cabonce had initially molested her by touching her private parts.

"Subsequent molestations, the last one ending in rape, happened on March 3 and 14," Linahon said.

She said the girl "was threatened with a knife and an end to her scholarship to prevent her from telling anyone about her ordeal."

Linahon said Cabonce also "made sure that his guns and blades/ weapon were in plain sight of Leah while he violated her in his room."

Despite Cabonce's denial, Linahon said it was unlikely the girl would make up stories that would sully her reputation.

"She has a strong case and sufficient evidence for Fr. Noel Cabonce's conviction," she said.

Hipos told the Inquirer their group had taken custody of Leah, who "is now undergoing counseling for the severe emotional and psychological trauma resulting from Father Cabonce's abuses."

"Leah was greatly affected by her traumatic experience. She could not imagine that she would happen to her considering that she trusted the priest as a man of God," Linahon said.

She said Gabriela had urged Pedilla not to protect Cabonce and not cover up for the priest's alleged misdeeds.

"Bishop Pedilla should be an instrument of justice and equality rather than engage in a coverup to protect Father Cabonce," Hipos said.

Linahon said the victim's ordeal would last for the tip of the iceberg. With a report from Jeffrey Tupas, Inquirer Mindanao

'One bishop's opinion does not a Church statement make'

CEBUCO leaders yesterday urged the media to differentiate between the opinions of a bishop and the official statements of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).

In a forum aimed at bridging perceived miscommunications between the Church and media held in the Ateneo de Manila University, Jesus Castor Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle stressed the difference between a bishop's statement and that of the Church hierarchy, among other issues.

Tagle, chair of the CBCP Episcopal Commission on Doctrine of the Faith, said there was "dynamic tension" running between the Church and its leaders.

Tagle cited the purported "excommunication" of President Aquino amid the raging debate over the reproductive health bill and the controversial "Pepsi-7 bishops," who were erroneously reported to have received upon retiring vehicles from the previous administration. (They bought other types of vehicles, it was later clarified).

At the forum dubbed "Reporting on the Church: Dialogue Between Media and the Church," Tagle stressed that the Catholic Church is not a "democracy of ideas," in which a bishop, as a member of faith must strive to know "what it is all about." But this doesn't stop bishops from forming opinions, he added.

"But we must distinguish between our opinion and the saving truth," said the prelate. He said there were many times that news reports carried statements of a bishop as a certain Church leader, which were taken as that of the CBCP, often causing confusion.

A bishop "is just equivalent to the CBCP," the prelate said. The official spokesperson of the CBCP is its president and in his absence, only the media arm of the Church hierarchy could give official statements, Tagle explained. Jocelyn R. Uy

OFWs learn to obey Ramadan rules, but maids complaining

NO FILIPINO was arrested this year for breaking Ramadan rules in Saudi Arabia but maids complained of being overworked during the Muslim holy month, according to Migrante, an organization connected with migrant labor problems.

Unlike before, overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in Saudi Arabia are getting more "actually conscious" with no Filipino being arrested so far for violating rules—which range from a ban on drinking to making noise—during the holy Muslim month of Ramadan, Migrante said yesterday.

Migrante International noted that Ramadan was ending either on Aug. 29 or 30 but there have been no report of OFWs being arrested for breaking Ramadan prohibitions, unlike in the past two years.

Montesclaros pointed out that there were around 20 OFWs apprehended in 2009 while 35 were arrested last year for violations during Ramadan.

"It's a good sign that our fellow OFWs are becoming socially conscious on the prohibitions by the host governments," Montesclaros said.

"Violation of Ramadan rules is considered a grave crime, with a corresponding penalty of imprisonment of six months to one year and a number of lashes," he added.

During the holy month, it is strictly prohibited to smoke, have sex, consume any of vicious or toxic substance, consume, gossiping and making noise are also prohibited. Even non-Muslim expatriate workers are expected to observe these prohibitions, Montesclaros said.

While there were no Filipinos arrested so far in violation of Ramadan rules, Montesclaros said he received a report that there was an OFW involved in a drug-related case in Riyadh.

"We are coordinating with embassy officials about this case as the family of the OFW sought assistance from us," Montesclaros said.

"We (also) continue to receive requests for assistance from OFW domestic workers complaining about the difficulty of their work," he added.

During Ramadan, maids are required to do household and other chores starting "early in the morning until late at night," he said.

Montesclaros cited the case of a Riyadh-based OFW complaining that her hands had become "swollen due to immense exposure to water and dishwashing soap."

"She already asked her employers to give her rest but the latter insisted she continue with her chores," he said. Migrante said it is urging labor officials to talk with her employer and urge him to be more socially conscious of the human rights of domestic workers." Phillip C. Tubeo

Assistant Editor Tony Bengcayo

Across the NATION

Mayor offers poll fraud testimony

By Carla P Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—A controversial mayor of a Negros Occidental town offered himself as a witness to what he said was election fraud in 2004 in favor of Gloria Arroyo in the province's fifth district allegedly perpetrated by the former president's brother-in-law, Rep. Ignacio Arroyo Jr.

In a press statement, Mayor Magdaleno Peña of Pulupandan said he was willing to cooperate in efforts to reveal the truth behind election fraud in the province's fifth district.

Peña said he has personal knowledge of how Iggy Arroyo put together and executed the plot to make his sister-in-law win the 2004 presidential elections in the district.

Peña said he was coming out in the open in response to pleas by the Senate to investigators fixed their sun widely believed to have brought Mrs. Arroyo to power in 2004 with the help of operatives like Iggy Arroyo.

Personal knowledge

Peña said he and several cousins Enrique "Quike" Montilla, among others, had personal knowledge of the massive vote buying for Mrs. Arroyo conducted only by Iggy Arroyo in the fifth district in 2004.

According to Peña, he had asked Arroyo three days before the 2004 elections how many of the 218,000 voters in the fifth district he would field raise and how much he would give to each voter. He added that Iggy had told him of his plans.

He also said in his press release that he would disclose details on the massive vote buying in the fifth district.

Questions

Questions on where the money came from and how it was carried to Negros would be answered at the hearing during the investigation, the mayor said in his press release.

Peña said his decision to disclose what he knew was a response to Iggy's previous challenge for him to a fight.

'Pick an ear'

In a press statement on April 12, 2011, Iggy said Peña seemed fond of picking fights with women. "Why not pick on someone your own size or better yet, why not pick on me instead?," Arroyo added to clear statements.

Peña said Arroyo was attended lesser in London, allegedly for treatment of his liver ailment and hip bone replacement surgery.

However, he said he was sure that upon Iggy's return, he would be in fighting form.

'Boxing match'

Peña said he was accepting Arroyo's challenge to a fight, "perhaps a boxing match in front of the provincial capitol" with Governor-elect Governor Alfredo Marañon Jr. and Vice Gov. Gerardo Alvarez as referees and provincial board members as judges.

But, in a phone interview Friday, Iggy said he was not going to deign it anything beneath his interest.

"It comes from somebody who has nothing better to do with his life. What is important is the people of the fifth district whom I proudly represented know that I am their duly elected representative and they voted for me. Therefore, I enjoy their trust and confidence," Iggy said.

"This is the first and the last time I am going to answer a harassment," Iggy said.

Peña became controversial after a month published child custody battle with actress Pinky Amor, his former partner.

BENEFICIARIES of the government's cash dole program, supposedly the poorest of the poor, queue for their turn to withdraw their money from rare ATM booths of the Land Bank of the Philippines in Lucena City.

Cebu's P674M loan plan raises doubts on surplus

By Doris C. Bongcac
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—If the city posted a surplus of P1 billion last year, why is it planning to borrow P674 million from banks for its infrastructure projects this year?

City Treasurer Nanie Custodio said one explain to the city council during a closed-door meeting on Wednesday where the surplus money went when the term of Mayor Tomas Osmeña ended on June 30, 2010.

Custodio said the city no longer enjoyed a surplus and that line of credit recommended to acquire loans from depository banks to fund infrastructure projects listed in the proposed 2012 Annual Budget (2012).

He said the city was still going over the city records after the task force was formed by Osmeña-Oliva, who was recalled by the Department of Finance in July.

Mayor Michael Rama, however, said he didn't know if Dr. Anella really left the city with a surplus of P1 billion.

"We keep on talking about P1 billion, but did it really exist? They should present proof that such a fund existed," he told a news conference on Thursday.

Rama said Oliva should include to explain what happened to the money and how it was spent because he took over as mayor only last year. He assured that he would file charges against her if she had committed any wrongdoing.

"There may be surplus funds before, but now there's," said Councilor Margot Osmeña, chair of the budget committee and wife of the past mayor. "Whatever we have in the bank now was already committed to the general fund."

Councilor Osmeña insisted that the city was not going bankrupt and may still have "unspent funds somewhere."

She said several lump-sum appropriations were included in the P4.3-billion annual budget.

Rama has submitted the proposed 2012 annual budget amounting to P3,147 billion to fund, among other items, drainage improvement projects (P200 million); renovation of the Inayon Carbon Market (but 2 (P198 million); construction of public infrastructure at the City Hall Mall Mall of the South Road Properties (P67.5 million). It also allocated P95-million for senior citizens' assistance—an increase in the annual budget (P2,000 to P5,000), and P2,000 each as birthday gift.

Rama also sought P647 million for infrastructure projects.

But sources in the city doesn't have the money, the CEU Treasurer's Office suggested that it secure bank loans.

According to Custodio, Vice Mayor Joy Young asked Camarillo during a briefing to explain why a huge amount was needed when the city has P2 billion in time deposits at Philippine National Bank (PNB), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), Banco de Oro (BDO) and Postal Bank (PB).

The biggest of its cash deposits at Landbank (PB) was earning a yearly interest of six percent.

Camarillo told the city council that Oliva had placed part of the P2 billion in the banks as time deposits to earn interest, with most of the funds in short terms and the rest in a 5-year period.

But the money had been earmarked under the general budget.

> 'We keep on talking about P1 billion, but did it really exist...'

Dole recipients say they're shortchanged

By Dolly T. Pulliat Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LUCENA CITY—Recipients here of cash doles from the government, through the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), are complaining of being shortchanged.

A woman from the coastal town of Dalahican said she failed to get P600 supposedly for health service when she checked her ATM account on Thursday.

The woman, who asked that she not be identified for fear of reprisal from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), said she used to receive P1,140 monthly in cash doles but the amount was cut to P600 a month for the last two months.

"Where is my money?" the woman asked.

The 4Ps is a government program that offers the poorest of the poor monthly doles of P500 for health and P300 for education of every child below 14 years old not exceeding three children per family.

A beneficiary family receives an average of P1,400 a month from the government's through 4Ps.

Hundreds of 4Ps beneficiaries reportedly lined a long line on the sidewalks of Quezon Avenue here on Thursday to wait for their turn at two ATM booths of the Land Bank of the Philippines.

Two of the beneficiaries complained of delayed payments of their monthly doles. One said she had already pawned her monthly dole.

She borrowed from a neighbor, she said, promising to pay the loan when she gets her monthly dole.

A staffer of the local office of the DSWD, the agency administering the dole programs, said there was no shortchanging.

Lany Brown, who said she was the family government link to the DSWD program, said beneficiaries who fail to attend monthly cluster meetings in villages and fail to submit documents showing their children have gone through medical checkups lose their P500 in their monthly dole per family.

"That P500 monthly assistance has a corresponding obligation. Failure to comply is automatic deduction," Brown said.

Pilarita Alao said the disbursement of the dole to the city happens every two months.

Every cluster has a leader who is tasked with monitoring the compliance of each cluster member with conditions of the cash dole.

Brown said cluster leaders are now strict in monitoring amid reports that some benefi. cluster were using their dole for

Quezon Province's Governor Danilo Suarez said the provincial government has allocated P5 million for the 4Ps program, which was started by ex-President Macapagal Arroyo and continued by her successor, President Aquino.

The program currently has P32 billion in funds and DSWD is asking Congress to allocate P59 billion for the program next year.

Schools unite to save key Benguet river

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—A coalition of universities has convinced the governments of Baguio City and La Trinidad, Benguet, to connect to their drainage of the Balili River, a major source of water for strawberry and flower farmers here.

In a ceremony recently officials of the University of the Philippines Baguio, University of La Trinidad, Saint Louis University and Benguet State University signed a memorandum of understanding with La Trinidad Mayor Gregorio Aliso Jr. and representatives of Baguio Mayor Mauricio Domogan to restore the river.

The latest initiative takes off from efforts made in 1998 and 1999, before Baguio's population grew to 302,000 and before congestion in riverside communities happened.

The universities are providing local governments all information about the river's biological and chemical make-up, given the pollutants measured by run-off water discharged daily from the main river capital.

The Balili River passes through 74 of the city's 128 villages and 9 barangays of La Trinidad, a municipality (175,148 people) five, before it reaches La Trinidad and meanders through farms in four villages.

Data from an inspection by Abalos, UP Baguio Chancellor Wilfredo Macanayan and UP Baguio Social Sciences Dean Raymundo Rovillos also showed that residents living along the riverbank at the Baguio-La Trinidad border were liable for the pollution of Balili River.

Macanayan said the universities have formed a research coalition to provide policymakers with the answers that will plague Balili River's state and to impart technology, biological solutions and behavioral techniques necessary to reverse the river's deterioration.

"I am sure people are aware [of] the pollution in the river, but they see what's going on and then they turn away," Macanayan said.

The researchers, which the coalition of universities is trying to build, would enable communities, especially those living near the river banks, to take part in the river clean-up and protection.

The studies will be filtered through a data clearing house led by BSU, she said.

Dr. Horacio Dasa, UC president, said the universities have been negotiating with China's Guangzhou University for a possible twinning partnership to keep the coalition running, while local governments work to remediate the river.

Dasa said Baguio remains key to the rehabilitation because the main source of pollutants are from the city market and slaughter.

Baguio has been trying to solve the Balili River problem for years, said Cordelia Lacsamana, city environmental officer.

In the early 1990s, the city government was set to put up a septage treatment plant near the Baguio-La Trinidad boundary, Vincent Cabreza, inquirer Northern Luzon

A WOMAN tends to her child as she works on a strawberry farm in Benguet, which draws water from the Balili River.

INQUIRER Mindanao

Renegade Kato: What's he really up to?

By Ryan D. Rosauro

'When the tensions flared up, Christians and Moros who have long been fighting over competing claims of land took advantage and used the moment as opportunity to hit on each other...'

AMID FEARS of a shaping splinter group within the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) may no longer be over war for Bangsamoro independence, there is curious public assurances on what is really on the mind of its purported leader, Ameril Umra Kato.

At the outset of an interview on Aug. 18 at his Maguindanao mountain lair, Kato, the 69-year-old bench-trained Muslim decries the impression of being a staunch Moro independence leader.

"How can you have independence for the Bangsamoro under the Philippine Constitution?" he stressed. "We are only claiming our right."

Kato, 69-year MILF chief Murad Ebrahim for meeting President Aquino in Tokyo, saying this was a signal that the rebel leader was agreeing to craft to political demands under the Philippine Constitution, and therefore, a surrender of the group's main aspiration.

"It cannot be achieved under [the principle] of sovereignty or federalism. Independence is the only goal," he further said.

But after more than an hour of assurances, mostly in Filipino, Kato contradicted his own assurances.

By his own revelations, he was really up to make some move with the top MILF leadership over several decisions it made that affected him.

And to prove his accusation that the MILF Central Committee was wrong in the way it treated him, Kato wanted the "true account" of the peace-long war beginning Jan by 2000 to come out.

Kato began setting up his own base in an area within the MILF's Camp Omar in January after breaking away from the Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF), the armed wing of the MILF.

By March, he publicly came out to announce the formation of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF).

A year earlier, in December 2009, Kato resigned as commander of the BIAF's 105th base command covering the swamps areas around the Liguasan Marsh that include towns in North Cotabato and Maguindanao.

The split has worried the government, apprehensive that Kato's group would spoil the current counter-regime and make difficult the implementation of a roadmap agreement in the already 14-year peace negotiations with the MILF.

Kato himself acknowledged that the MILF Central Committee had sent four missions to coax him back into the fold.

So far, he has stood firm on keeping his band—estimated to be between 300 and 200 men—supposedly to advance the vision espoused by the late MILF chair Salamat Hashim and already abandoned by the current leadership.

At a glance

Principal among Kato's gripes was the issuance of a suspension of offensive military actions (Joma) by the BIAF in July 2009 as a reciprocal gesture to an earlier declaration by Malacañang of a suspension of military operations (Somo).

These declarations ended the year-long war popular by continued to the aborted signing of the landmark Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD).

Kato noted that the BIAF's Joma was effective in all areas while the government's Somo was selective, energizing his command and that of Abdullah "Commander Bravo" Macapaza and Aleem Ali Pangalian in Lanao del Norte.

The tenant that his command would not be able to defend itself from government offensives.

Kato said he felt "left alone to be pursued relentlessly by government troops." He further said his bases were unable to defend their support communities from incursions of government soldiers.

In the weeks of clashes in North Cotabato and Lanao del Norte, Macapaza, Pangalian and Kato were the subject of massive bounty. Both Macapaza and Kato carried P10 million bounty on each, while Pangalian had P5 million.

Kato said the MILF leadership's "abandonment" led to their being declared "lawless" by the government.

"Why sell against being pursued when you are a rebel? That is part of the life of a revolutionary," said MILF chief peace negotiator Mohagher Iqbal, a 66-year veteran in the Moro rebellion.

RENEGADE? Moro rebel leader Ameril Umra Kato bids journalists goodbye after an touching interview in his mountain lair.

"I have not turned about it. I have a price tag since 1977," Iqbal added.

Kato's other gripe is that he was not consulted when a bona was launched and eventually declared. "I was only able to know about such upcoming decision after I learned that my field commanders were made to sign a manifesto supporting a former minister," he pointed out.

Would he have supported such a move? "I cannot tell. It will depend on my discussions," Kato said.

The immediate step to alleviate actions from both sides has been a climate of civilian communities since the beginning of 2009 that culminated in a mass mobilization along the Cotabato-General Santos highway dubbed "Bakwit Power."

But even as Kato acknowledged clear frictions with the MILF leadership, he clarified that the recent skirmishes in Buliok Pangkuran were not between the BIFF and the BIAF.

It was just incidental that those involved in the land dispute, which was the cause of the clashes, belong to either group, he explained.

Independent probe

Kato lamented the tag of provocateur of the resulting war that flared in August 2008. "Provoking war is difficult. He knows that the government has strong armed forces," he stressed.

"All of these accusations against me are lies," he added.

Kato has urged the conduct of an independent probe by the International Monitoring Team (IMT) on the incidents "to set the record straight about who were really responsible for starting the war."

An internal probe of the MILF traces the string of events to an incident on July 1, 2008, in North Cotabato.

But Kato claimed that the provocation by Philippine Army and government soldiers dated back to April 2008.

"My troops were only coming to the aid of a colleague in Alamada [North Cotabato] when I was harassed," Kato said as he explained the movement of BIAF troops under his command at that time.

Fleeing tensions were not contained and clear snowballed into the large-scale attacks by August that was "wrongly attributed" to the aborted signing of the homeland deal, Kato claimed.

And what about the burning of houses in several North Cotabato villages?

"When the tensions flared up, Christians and Moros who have long been fighting over competing claims of land took advantage and used the moment as opportunity to hit on each other," Kato explained.

"Bad because my troops were principally visible, all these actions were initially attributed to us," he added.

An independent report prepared by the Mindanao Peoples Caucus about the BIFF, which was submitted to both the government and MILF peace panels, cited the killing of the IMT in stalemates the probe of the alleged war atrocities in 2008.

An MILF official told the Inquirer that government forces had stopped pursuing Kato upon appeal of the MILF panel pending the result of an IMT probe. But the rebel did not specify when the standstill was hailed.

Acceptable form

Kato said that while he was maintaining a separate army, he was committed to the ideals of the MILF which he said, was achieving liberation for the Bangsamoro people.

During the recent interview, Kato dropped using the word independence for liberation when asked to describe Salamat's vision of Moro self-government.

Instead, he explained that liberation must basically mean two elements: the establishment of Islamic governance and the freedom from political and economic control of the Philippine state.

"Even if it is not the entire Mindanao and it's not total independence or separation, so long as the two elements are present," he said.

Kato said these were enshrined in the MOA-AD. "I will support an agreement which completely embodies the MOA-AD," he said.

But he said he had lost hope and criticized the MILF for engaging in "protracted negotiations."

In July 2008, both the government and MILF panels agreed to enhance the MOA-AD in the process of crafting a comprehensive compact. The MILF itself disclosed that the content of its proposed formula is at least 70 percent derived from the MOA-AD.

Self-reliant

"We are only surviving here," Kato described the BIFF's main activity.

He claimed that he was not recruiting, but that his force had rapidly grown for the last six months, prompting him to "monitor the way we do things."

"People are coming here and asking you if to not movement exclusively," he added.

Hailed up in an area which agricultural production activity is largely at a subsistence scale, questions continually arise about how the BIFF managed to survive. But Kato insists they are a "self-reliant" army.

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Patrick Reiner Lasala
5th Place!
Mel Joy Pamiano
10th Place!
COLLEGE OF NURSING (Antipolo) 97.56% Passing Mark
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY (June 2011) 93.02% Passing Mark
COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
January 2011
5th place! - Sheila Joyce Pacis
7th place! - Alvin Clyde Dandaya
COLLEGE OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY
March 2011
6th place! - Cleo Ann Pamugas
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
February 2011
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3rd place! - Lhon Stephen Pe
4th place! - Kenneth Yabut
7th place! - Joanna Carmina Sc
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TOP COPS WITH COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF President Aquino shares the stage with the 2011 Country's Outstanding Police were in Service (COPS) Awardees during the conferment ceremony at Rizal Ceremonial Hall in Malacañang on Friday. This year's honorees are PO2 Rex dela Cruz Salaya, SPO1 Manuel Almadrigo Pudlan, SPO4 Emmanuel Portillo Ising, Police Chief Insp. Dalia Jacob Ingalla, Police Supt. Sierra Bontimar Ladan, Police Supt. Samuel Pomasin Tarla, SPO2 Mehre Lagoy dela Cruz and PO3 Redel Zenaclap Rizare. COPS is a joint undertaking of Metrobank Foundation Inc. (MBFI) and Rotary Club of Nere Manila East, and implemented in close coordination with the Philippine National Police. The award seeks to identify gallant men and women in the police force who are able to work with the community to prevent and solve crime. Also in the photo are MBFI vice chair Dr. Florido Maga Jr., chair Dr. George S.K. Ty, president Antonio Salvosa III, Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo, PNP Director General Raul Bacalzo, Lorenzo Cuyo, president Dr. Cecilio Pedro and Pangasinan Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil. MALACAÑANG PHOTO

'Meddling' woman among 8 outstanding cops

From page A1

Her achievements in policing what were commonly she serves has made her one of eight members of the national police force to be conferred the country's Outstanding Policemen in Service (COPS) award this year.

Ingalla fetched staff of eight in rescuing 33 victims of trafficking, many of them children, at little or no cost to their indigent families in separate operations between 2007 and 2008, setting a record in her service.

She has also pursued and arrested notorious members of sex offenders, including a recidivist rapist who forced his 12-year-old sister into a sex-for-rent arrangement, and a kidnapper and rapist whose victim was found and rescued in Puerto Rico.

But what Ingalla considers a greater achievement is how she was able to convince the community that she served to recognize, protect and defend the rights of women and children—such as she had tried to do as a girl of 10.

COPS is a joint undertaking between the Metrobank Foundation, the Rotary Club of New Manila East and PNP with the Philippine National Police (PNP) to identify gallant men and women in the police force who are able to work with the community to prevent and solve crime.

Up to through COPS that we give honor to the outstanding members of the PNP who have worked together with their communities to crime solution and prevention," said Metrobank Foundation president Antonio Salvosa.

The eight officers who are this year's awardees received their medals and P500,000 prize in Malacañang on Friday.

Ten awardees are normally chosen, but only eight qualified in 2011, out of more than 300 nominees from all over the country. The finalists went through a rigorous process, including a review of their credentials and a board interview by organizers said.

Though Ingalla was the only female commissioned officer among the winners, two other women made it: SPO2 Mehre de los Cruz, an investigator at the women and children's protection desk of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group-National Capital Region, and PO3 Rina Sobera, a non-commissioned officer with the police force of Manila, Iloilo.

Be in Ilocos, a lawyer, resolved the case involving a Saudi African women who was raped by two suspects inside the San Juan City police station in 2008. Within days, non-criminal case had been filed with the prosecutor's office, earning for be in Ilocos praise from the Saudi African embassy. She also played a vital role in the arrest of illegal drug traders, swindlers and gunand-arm crimes.

Salaya, a mother of four, handled a PNP program called "Pulis Ako, Sundan Ako" (My Policeman, My Teacher), which brought the local police to the classrooms, enabling them the rudiments of "probation, children's rights and the importance of becoming law-abiding citizens."

A policewoman for 27 years, Ingalla said women had come a long way in the service, but there was still much that needed to be done, noting how the ranks are still dominated by men.

Only one in 750 of the 140,000-strong national police force is female, according to Chief Supt. Agripinos Cruz Jr., spokesperson of the Philippine National Police.

Perfect fit

Ingalla, who has worked in operations, community relations and other police offices, said working in the women and children's protection desk was one of her favorite assignments yet for a "perfect fit" for her personality.

"It requires a lot of skill and training. You almost all the anger and rage of the victims. You have to have an extensive knowledge of the law, psychology and the mechanisms of how to handle suspects and victims sensitively," she said.

She said her experience as a member of law group's children (and those neighborhood helped a lot, seeing that there are differences between handling women and children victims, and even suspects who are minors as well.

"It's a very difficult job which is why a lot of women don't want to be assigned to the women and children's desk," said Ingalla, a criminology graduate of the University of Northeastern Philippines.

What she likes to do is to give everyone, both victim and suspect, "empowerment information" and show a strong but sensitive hand in handling their cases, she said.

"In the women and children's desk, we're focused on protecting the rights of the victim. You don't want the victims and their families to feel that they're being victimized again. Victims hold a lot of grievances and many feel that they are being taken advantage of because they're poor," she said.

"But at the same time, you have to make sure that the suspects do not feel that we're being unfair," Ingalla said.

More outstanding awardees

The rest of the COPS awardees are Superintendent Marie Ladian and Samuel Tarla, SPO4 Emmanuel Ising, SPO1 Manuel Pudlan and PO3 Redel Abrazo.

Armed with four degrees, including law, Ladian, the budget and fiscal chief of the PNP Station Security Group in Baguio City, served as chief inspector in a police operation that took down the notorious Agong Sarmo kidnap-for-ransom gang. He also dismantled an illegal drug flea market in Ilocos, Cavite, and neutralized robbery syndicates in the province.

Tarla, a 31-year veteran at the PNP, began his long career in the force as a counter-insurgency agent, with recruited armed encounters with members of the Abu Sayyaf an Bangsa Islamiya (ABI)'s Jihadist unit and the communist New People's Army rebels collecting "revolutionary taxes from rice traders. He also avenged the shooting death of a police colonel with the capture of ASG leader Said Sirayi.

Abrazo led operations in Calapan City that took apart four illegal drug rings, including two clandestine laboratories found with methamphetamines amounting to P1 million. He also closed down a barrihan that was found to have employed underage girls.

Ising, chief investigator of the Sorsogon del Sur's investigation and detention management section, pursued and arrested the assassins that killed kidnapping Bayan member Melchor Vallejos. He also initiated "Paking-Paking" (public dialogues) programs to engage the community to crime prevention.

Pudlan, of the traffic management section of the Antipolo City police station, played a key role in the arrest of the suspects in the assassination of Mayor Bernardo Sarguet in 2001. He also brought down alleged drug lord Bernardo Tuazon who was found in possession of seven bags of shabu and played a key role in neutralizing the Bonnet Gang, responsible for a series of armed robberies in Antipolo.

PMAyers in PNP a vanishing breed

From page B1

Pasion said the 130,000-strong force would traditionally enlist in the graduates of the Cavite-based PNP Academy (PNPA), and to them Bacalzo offered a piece of advice: "Look at what is good about ex-PMAs graduates and replicate it. Do anything else you see that is not so good, remember them so you won't make the same mistakes."

"We are an endangered species. If in you after shall be left," he said.

From PMA to PNPA

The PNPA was created in 1917 when the state's chief law enforcement unit was known as the Integrated National Police, a unit under the AFP. Before its facilities were completed in Camp Castañeda in Silang, Cavite, its enumerators initially constructed on Army turf, in Fort Bonifacio. The PNPA produced its first graduates in 1960.

In the other hand, the PMA's beginnings in Baguio City date back to 1908 during the Commonwealth period.

But what does the rise of this once-cutting school in the PNP mean to the political citizenry?

Bacalzo said the leadership shift from the PMA in the PNPA should signal a change in perspective, allowing the PNP to assume a fully civilian character.

Dysfunctions

It should remove, he said, what he called "dysfunctions" traceable to the militaristic training of past and present PNP leaders. "There were habits that somehow spilled from the military to the PNP," Bacalzo said with unusual candor in a recent television interview.

Speaking at a forum in July, Bacalzo said the PNP's military past may have been a factor why its members continue to be linked to human-rights abuses, such as extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances. He couched such dark baggage in milder terms: "birth pains."

He took note of the long PNP history, from its origins under the American colonial period, its transformation into the militarized Philippine Constabulary in the 1930s, to its eventual separation from the AFP and further reforms under the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

"So there are some, shall we say, birth pains, when PNP was formed—separate from the AFP in 1991," Bacalzo

ABUL BACALZO In the PNP we have our own ways.

said when asked why the PNP and the AFP remained the most corrupts in human rights abuses.

"Under martial law, we were under the military. We know the views of the military back in the day. Hindi sasabihin human rights noon (But much talk of human rights back then). That was the prevailing thought," he said in the interview.

Not perfect

One process was not normally observed, said Bacalzo: "We (PMA graduates) are not perfect, you know. In the military, we're governed by the Articles of War. We can immediately detain someone. Now we can't do that anymore in the PNP. We have due process now," he said.

But he admitted that there were still some police officers who are continuously using that way. "That's the kind of thinking that I said I want to remove. Now let's put it in black and white. Policy case, take into account the respondents' human rights, follow due process," Bacalzo said.

He cited the case of Marine Cpl. Lance Orozco Manano, who recently appeared on a YouTube video purportedly calling for the overthrow of the Aquino administration.

After the video made headlines, Bacalzo said immediately ordered to question and placed under investigation by the Navy. "We (the PNP) can't do something like that," Bacalzo said. "We're the police. If we were still military, we could do that."

He also cited the controversies that founded the tenure of past PNP chiefs who were products of PMA, like Pedrito Lacson (Class of 1971), Jesus Verzosa, and Eliseo dela Paz (both of '75).

Since the split from the AFP, the PNP had chopped talking to PMA graduates. Its succeeding officers and recruits had since come from the PNPA, and other schools whose graduates applied through the National Police Commission.

Jealousy, mistrust

The PNP chief acknowledged "perceptions" of jealousy and mistrust between PMA and PNPA graduates, especially those competing for plum positions. The general view was that PMA inmates supposedly enjoyed a natural advantage since they shared the same alma mater with the higher-ups.

But Bacalzo maintained that such violations were misguided. "The junior (officers) today do compete among each other, but it's a healthy, friendly competition."

In fact, he said, a number of his close lieutenants, Director Danilo Abarintos, a two-star general, belongs to the (nonexisting) PNPA Class of 1986. "What I see is that there's a good fusion," he said.

"If you notice, there are now a lot of PMA and PNPA classes combined. In the PMA Class of 1991, their honorary members are PNPA Class of 1991. In the same manner, the PMA Class of 1991 are honorary members of PNPA 1991. (This fusion) is happening now," he said.

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Editor Alexander S. Lifunday

LOOKING FOR MONEY
People look for recyclable materials brought ashore at Roxas Boulevard in Manila unmindful of stirring waves spawned by heavy monsoon rains and tailwinds from Typhoon "Mina." MICHAEL VARCAS

Wrath of elderly

2 senior citizens, pal track down, arrest woman who duped them

By Jeannette I. Andrade

REMARK of the wrath of the elderly.

Two senior citizens and a friend have enforced a citizen's arrest against a woman who they claimed had duped them of close to P500,000 worth of plane tickets and tour packages.

The three claimed that they paid Maria Edna Ona, 46, a freelance travel agent, of Sta. Cruz, Manila, for the travel packages but the suspect allegedly never delivered and even tried to hide from them.

The alleged victims—Shirley Chong, 55; Tony Tong Abella, 68; and Giovanni Bernard Ketsenburg, 35—caught up with Ona before midnight of Thursday, along Adamos Street in Sta. Cruz and enforced a citizen's arrest on her when she allegedly could not produce P150,000 worth of plane tickets bound for Malaysia that she promised to deliver.

The three brought Ona to a hospital for a medical check-up, spoken-connected operating procedure for arrested suspects, before turning her over to the custody of the Manila Police District General Assignment Section (MPD-GAS).

Four other senior citizens, who reportedly had been duped, emboldened, surfaced Friday upon learning of Ona's arrest and accused her of duping them of a P170,000 tour package.

MPD Oswald Penaflor, case investigator, said that based on the complaints, Ona had allegedly introduced herself as an employee of a travel agency and offered to book them in the travel promos of two airline companies.

Penaflor said the seven complainants availed of the promos and either paid Ona in checks or by depositing the amounts directly in her bank account.

Chong and her two companions claimed that they first transacted with Ona on July 13 in her house at Bambang Extension in Tondo, where they paid her P150,000 in checks for plane tickets to Malaysia.

Five days after the transaction, Ona gave them itinerary tickets which indicated that they were scheduled for departure on Aug. 26 (but on Aug. 19 they discovered upon confirmation with the airline's website, that the itinerary tickets were fake and that there was no such booking. They said they tried to call Ona but she had turned off her mobile phone and had begun hiding from them.

The four other complainants who requested anonymity said that they met Ona in July and availed of a Singapore tour package from her. They then deposited the P170,000 payment for the travel package in Ona's bank account. They said they could no longer reach Ona when they learned from the travel agency Ona represented that the latter was on an indefinite leave.

No coding scheme on Aug. 29, 30

THE NUMBER CODING scheme in Metro Manila is lifted on Aug. 29 and 30, which Malacañang had declared as holidays.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) made the announcement Saturday on its official Twitter account.

Under the scheme, vehicles with license plate numbers ending in 1 and 2 are barred from major roads from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays.

On Tuesdays, vehicles with plate numbers ending in 3 and 4 are barred from main roads from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Palace had announced earlier that Aug. 29, National Heroes' Day, is a holiday.

President Aquino also signed Proclamation No. 324 setting Aug. 30 as a regular holiday in observance of Eid'l Fitr, which marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan.

The palace said declaring the day a holiday will give Filipinos opportunity to join their Muslim brothers and sisters in the observance and celebration of Eid'l Fitr. Tina G. Santos

₱1-M reward offered for info on slain film critics' maid

CASH DONATIONS gathered two years ago at the funeral wake of slain film critics couple Alexis Tioseco and Nikki Bolivar have been converted into a ₱1 million reward for information that would lead to the arrest of one of four suspects in their killing.

FILM critics Alexis Tioseco (right) and Nikki Bolivar.

Members of the Tioseco family and several of the couple's friends went to the National Bureau of Investigation on Friday to announce the bounty for the arrest of the couple's housemaid Graciela Dayag, 45, who was the only suspect positively identified by a witness.

The two film critics were shot to death on Sept. 1, 2009, inside their house on Timog Street, Quezon City, by three armed burglars who were allegedly tipped off and allowed access into the home by Dayag.

Gregg Bañez, the couple's friend who acted as the spokesperson for the group, told reporters that the suspect had been tagged by a fellow housemaid as the killers' accomplice when she overheard Dayag talking on the cell phone in a local dialect.

The burglars allegedly ransacked the house and shot to death the couple, who had arrived and stumbled onto the robbery. The suspects then fled aboard Tioseco's car.

Apart from an arrest warrant against Dayag issued by a Quezon City regional trial court, Bañez said the housemaid has a standing warrant issued by a Pasay City court for a robbery case in 1999.

She pointed out that Dayag had gained employment at a Pasay City home and, with the help of her accomplices, allegedly robbed her employers.

NBI investigator and lawyer Rolando Rivera said that suspicion fell on Dayag because there was already a pattern in her alleged activities. "She was employed as a housemaid by a Chinese businessman in Pasay City in 1999 but she and two cohorts hogged her employer and robbed him," he explained.

He added that the NBI is looking into other angles into the killing but only revealed one: That aside from taking the cash and jewelry, they tried to kidnap the couple for ransom but Tioseco fought them off.

Asked why the other housemaid was not killed, Rivera told the inquirer that Dayag's comrades and the only witness to the crime was 60 years old and she was blindfolded and hogtied by the suspects. "She was no longer a threat to them," he said.

Bañez stressed in Filipino, "It has been almost two years but we cannot bear to let go of our crusade to find justice for the couple."

He confided, "Before, searches to us were just numbers. After what happened to Alex and Nikki, we realized that all we read about murders in the newspapers and watched on TV had families and friends who lost loved ones. They are real. These people are all real." Jeannette I. Andrade

MetroBriefs

Fire razes Malaboo candy factory during heavy rains

HEAVY rains did not prevent a fire from engulfing a candy factory in Malaboo City on Saturday morning. Fire Officer 3 Jerry Torres, case investigator, said the fire, allegedly caused by lightning, razed the Philippine American Sweets on Roxas St., Barangay Tabang, at around 5 a.m. Residents of the house next-at the time, however had trouble through big doors. Residents as they sprayed water from their hoses, it has not been declared only after more than five hours. Fire officials said the building also housed stocks of brownies and sticks made of wood and bamboo. There were no reports of casualties. Damage to property was estimated at P3 million. Cristina Fabian Mangayong

300 police officials take service eligibility exams today

ABOUT then 300 police officials are taking the National Police Commission's (Napolcom's) Police Executive Service Eligibility (PESE) examination in different testing centers nationwide today. Napolcom Chair Jesse Robredo said the PESE, an eligibility requirement for the ranks of police senior superintendent (equivalent to colonel in the military) to police director general (equivalent to four-star general), focuses on six categories: Executive-emotional quotient (executive), leadership competence assessment, moral development, job knowledge, communication skills assessment and creative development management. Tina G. Santos

Body of missing girl found floating on Pasig River

POLICE retrieved Saturday the body of a 13-year-old girl who went missing after the flood she was in capsized in the Pasig River past midnight on Friday. Police said that the body of Michelle Mendez of Pateros in Taguig was fished out of the waters in Pinyahan 2, Barangay Pinagka. Residents nearby can her body floating and alerted the police. Investigators discovered that Mendez and three male companions had gone on a boat ride for hire after a drinking spree on Friday when their boat capsized. Cristina Fabian Mangayong

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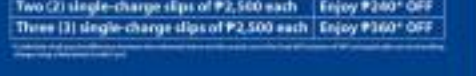

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RESISTANCE from OFWs counted through banks reached $6.8 billion in the first half of 2011, posting a year-on-year growth of 8.3 percent.
—Dingdong Avanzado ng Filipinas
Overseas Assets Dialogue

GLOBAL Pinoy

Editor P...

Send feedback, comments and suggestions at globalpinoy@inquirer.com.ph

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories ... of the world to secure a ... their families. These are their stories.

Rapper Kay One: At home in Virac

By Fernan Sinaban
Inquirer Southern Luzon

VIRAC, CATANDUANES—Germany's top rapper, Kay One, is rediscovering his musical roots in Virac, Catanduanes.

"This is home," says the 27-year-old Eurasian rap star, Filipino-German Immanuel Dädelow in real life, who is reconnecting with his family in the Bicol region and growing his fill of the mixed ancestry.

Kay One, who released his debut album "Normale Jungs" in June last year and was featured with the popular Berlitz Most Wanted, even credits his song-writing career to his grandfather Bernie Bagadiong, who was a local poet and writer. "I can compose a song in no hour," says Kay One in an interview in the sprawling ancestral compound of his aunt, Tina Bagadiong-Hernandez. He has composed all the songs he has sung, with one of them (Bruh) set also (Gold) picking up over 22 million hits on Youtube.

Hernandez, whose family is former Department of Tourism public relations officer Jaime Bagadiong, grew up in Barrosadong in northern Germany near the borders with Austria and Switzerland. He says he began rapping at age 13 with his older brother and experienced the travails.

Royal Rumble champion

He wanted joining hip hop and rap contests, convincing his dad to drive him around and even dropping in their raps and mixes. When he won the Royal Rumble freestyle competition in Stuttgart at age 14

FAMILY TIME (L-R): Rosalind Oliver Brzezowsky, Governor Joseph Cua, Kay One, mom Anne Bagadiong, and elder brother Leigh. (Oliver photo)

in 2000, his path to stardom was set. He signed his first contract at age 17 with Bernd Dauber that required him to produce songs and do concerts.

He had dropped out of school after the 9th grade after failing but accountancy course. He had long decided that accounting was not for him, and began concentrating on his fledgling music career.

"Of course my mom was angry with that typical Filipina vampeta mode," Kay One recalls.

His mom confirms the story: "It was a fight because I wanted him to continue schooling. But first-rank material. He said he would become great as a drummer. Of course I'm happy."

Pursue your dreams

"You will make me very happy," he had told his mom, "if you allow me to pursue my dreams."

He remembered that when he and his classmates were once asked what they wanted to be when they grow up, he immediately told the teacher he wanted to be rapper. The teacher tried to dissuade him, telling him he would not even become a garbage collector. He remained to that school seven years later, with the teachers telling him they always believed in him. Kay One says they recently meddled but the story makes him smile.

He now lives alone in an apartment in Berlin. He goes on tour three times a year, including one that takes him around various European cities.

Kay One's biggest audience was at the Brandenburg Gate together with other entertainers before 300,000 fans. His concerts regularly pull in a crowd of about 100,000. He sang the theme song for the German football team in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

Streetfight in Manila

Kay One arrived in the Philippines on Aug. 18.

His elder brother Leigh, came along for the three visit while the youngsters of the three (son, Oliver Jr., stayed behind to get ready for college in September.

He's already had some pretty memorable experiences. Two days after he arrived, he recalls, he fought off one hotship man near a five-star Makati hotel where he was staying.

RECORDING artist Kannon Dädelow a.k.a. Kay One

The Filipino-German rap star explores his Bicol roots

As the story goes, he was riding a stalk past 11 p.m. outside the Dusit Thani Hotel when a man came up to him and asked him if he wanted a girl. When he said "No," the man considered it his free him and was joined by another man.

One of the men, he recalls, raised an stack into his pocket. He turned around and punched the man in the jaw, sending him down. The other guy pulled out a knife/blade. The big 6'2 German decked him with a punch to the left eye.

Pedal hands of the man down, Kay One entered a nearby convenience store from where he watched the two thugs get up and run. He says he didn't bother to report the incident to the police, who 15 minutes earlier had sent one lone patrol car to look for him (on the request of his mom) after he failed to return to the hotel after a party on Gen. Charvie Ringson's yacht on Manila Bay.

Girls and music

Relaxing in seaside Virac, friends describe the good looking six footer to first himself a Filipina girlfriend.

He obliges the latter, saying he would "love to marry a Filipina girl. "I wouldn't prefer that my future wife would be able to talk with and relate to my music," Kannon says, adding that he wants to settle within three years, even once near if he finds the right girl.

However, he admits having girlfriends in Germany he attracted group when he was linked to a top actress and some economists on Germany's Next Top Model.

But music is really on his mind. "Filipinos can be the best in the world, they have the best voices," he says, citing up-and-up Shaina Alan, Nicole Scherzinger and Pharell Williams of the Neptunes.

On starting out, he shares that he made the Style music video for only 800 euros. "I got Asian cameras guy inside a good camera, a Canon 5D, and then we borrowed cars from friends, and girls from the club," adding that professionals would have done the same thing for 50,000 or 100,000 euros.

He advises local music stars to put fun into their work.

"For a song to be hit, there's got to fun, if it doesn't have fun, then it's not gonna be a hit."

To local artists, he shares: "Stay focused. Believe in your dream. Don't cheat anybody, do what you want to do."

DZIQ 990AM RADYO INQUIRER

OFWs refuse to leave war zones

By Susan K

THOUSANDS of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) declined repatriation efforts of the government despite escalating violence in Afghanistan, Libya, Syria and other countries, according to an OFW in an interview with Radyo DZIQ 990 Radio Inquirer. They would rather risk the chaos overseas rather than die of hunger in the Philippines. The OFW feared there would be no job waiting for him should he return to the country.

Government officials supervised evacuations in their last evacuation efforts in Libya. They failed to compel Filipinos to leave but a number of OFWs stood firm in their decision to stay.

* * *

Visiting privileges for kin

Jimmy DZIQ Translation advisor, Teng Vivoni, has come up with a new proposal to help ease the plight of our OFWs, especially those longing to see their kin once. In his regular consultations with fellow Filipinos abroad, Vivoni felt their strong desire to have their kin come over them while working abroad, even for just a short period of time. They wanted their closest family members to visit them in their country of work and to get basic with the experiences of traveling abroad.

Vivoni proposes special travel visits for parents, spouses and children of OFWs. Our government agencies should seriously look into this proposal, drawing up proper safeguards. The workers abroad should promise to be fully responsible for their kin and assure that their love ones will not overstay.

Vivoni proposes that the program be implemented in phases by government accredited travel agencies that should be equally responsible for ensuring the return of these visitors as a good-conduct time.

Hopefully, this "privilege" will not be abused to ensure that it will be enjoyed by many relatives of our OFWs.

Vivoni and Jimmy DZIQ are willing to pursue the mechanics of this proposal which can also be carried out by chartered flights by our local airline companies. Chartering can be scheduled during school breaks so that children of OFWs can visit their parents without the latter losing their places of work. This can also be a good motivation for children to do well in their studies as this is a dual incentive: Spending time with their parents and vacationing in another country.

Kay One's music, known if it is not heard at 104.9 DZIQ 990 AM Radyo Inquirer, Mon-Fri, 7 to 10 p.m. (live streaming: www.dziq.net), and at 9 to 12 midnight (live streaming: www.pinoyabroad.com). Jimmy DZIQ Hotline: 5357 990 / 8819 0000 / 0920 254 0990. E-mail: inquirerradyo@yahoo.com / inquirerradio@gmail.com

BACK-TO-BACK FILM AWARD

Nineteen-year-old Philippine native Miguel Calayan won the Best Documentary at the 5th Annual Rainforest Film Festival held by the San Francisco-based Academy of Art University earlier this year. Calayan's winning piece was entitled "Life Affair," a documentary about gestural Meghan Miller who shares her dream of joining the circus. It's Calayan's second win. Last year he bagged the same award for his work "Larry Hunk-Bachelorman," a piece about a local San Francisco street drummer. Calayan (right) shown with Tippi Hedren, star of the classic films "The Birds" and "Marnie," and Academy nominated Clive Bailey.

Is the green card worth preserving?

IMFO
Leandro Santos Tanchuco

WITH the global economy slowing down, green card holders are not spared the effects of the crisis. Quite a number of immigrants are unemployed.

Angelita got her green card few years ago. She had been in the US a few years earlier when she opted to return to Manila to take care of her ailing mother. In the last two years, Angelita stayed in the US for only a few weeks and lived in Manila a longer time.

During her last trip to the US, Angelita was subjected to a secondary inspection, an extensive interview by an immigration inspector. She was told that her immigrant visa or green card would be revoked if she continues to stay in the Philippines for long stretches of time.

Angelita has been thinking of giving up her green card. She is loathed for sold August saying she had decided to turn in her green card and reserve it into a tourist visa. Four days later, she changed her mind. Her query: Can I apply for a re-entry permit in the US Embassy in Manila instead? Or is it possible to apply for re-entry permit here in the US?

Angelita admitted that she has a well paying job in Manila. She said she was having a difficult time finding a job in the US and she may be home-off keeping her job and at the same time being with her mother. However, she wants to preserve her status as an immigrant in case circumstances change that will allow her again better opportunities in the US. What would be her best course of action?

Green card vs tourist visa

The Philippines is one of four countries that suffer from a serious backlog in the applications for immigrant visas. The longest wait for someone who wishes to obtain a green card through a family-based petition is 24 years. This refers to a petition filed by a US citizen on behalf of his or her siblings. Waiting time for petitions under the other preference categories varies anywhere from 10 to 18 years. Petitions by US citizens on behalf of parents, spouses or minor children are not affected by the backlog as they are considered immediate relatives and are processed quickly.

Considering the lengthy waiting time, once the green card is approved, most of those granted immigrant visas take six months. It could open the door to many opportunities.

On the other hand, a tourist visa allows the holder to visit the US for a short period of time and return to the Philippines thereafter.

No exchange of visas

If one has an oral intention to live in the United States, one was give up the green card by signing an abandonment form at the US Embassy or at the US Department of Homeland Security. Surrendering the green card, however, does not necessarily translate into an automatic grant of a tourist visa. There is no "exchange" of visa statuses.

The appropriate applications for a nonimmigrant visa or visa will have to be filed and the former green card holder will have to undergo the usual interview. The consular officer will determine whether the applicant has strong ties in the Philippines and has no reasons to overstay in the US. The fact that the former green card holder still has wanted to be US when he or she was an immigrant could be seen as a positive factor in determining intention. However, financial ability to travel abroad will also be taken into account. The applicant must be able to show evidence of sufficient funds or income to support all of a visitor visa holder. If temporary means, sufficient ties and resources are proven, then the former green card holder may be granted a tourist visa.

Walk on the Safe Side

Since Angelita is not sure of her decision to give up her green card, her best course of action may be to apply for a re-entry permit with the immigration service while she is in the US. This may not be applied for at the US Embassy in Manila. As soon as the re-entry permit is issued in the US, her intention is clearly established and she will no longer have to worry about losing it.

In times of uncertainty and if there is still doubt about the path that one wishes to take, it may be better to stay on the safe side by preserving the green card.

Tanchuco may be reached at leo@tanchuco.com or at 887 7577 or 721 5960.

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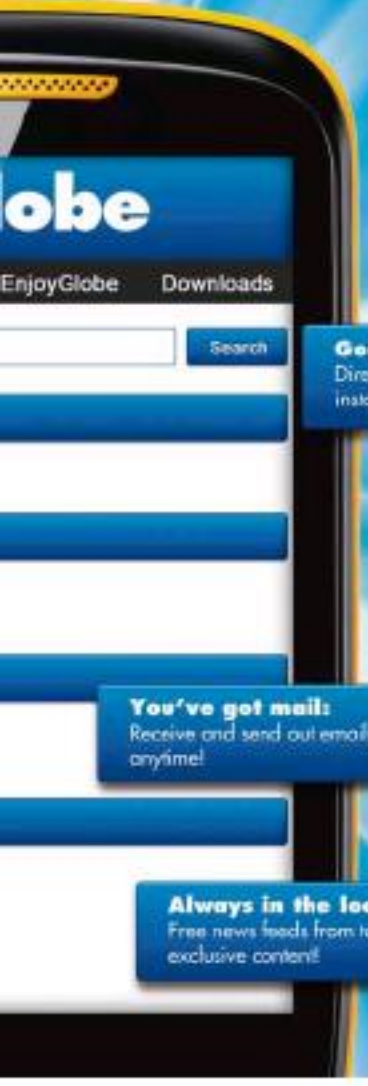

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Five-way race for new Japanese leader begins

TOKYO—Five lawmakers from Japan's ruling party on Saturday officially declared themselves candidates to succeed Prime Minister Naoto Kan and become the nation's sixth prime minister in five years.

Their declarations kicked off two days of campaigning that will culminate in the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) voting on Monday for a new leader, with kingmaker and tycoon-minister Ichiro Ozawa emerging as a strong contender.

Kan announced his resignation on Friday after less than 15 turbulent months in power, during which his response to the March 11 earthquake, tsunami and resulting nuclear plant accident drew fierce criticism.

The selection process, which started over the weekend, the candidates will seek the support of the 398 DPJ lawmakers who can vote on Monday. Parliament will then elect the leader as prime minister on Tuesday.

The winner faces the daunting task of overseeing Japan's biggest post-war reconstruction, rescuing the world's worst nuclear crisis since Chernobyl 25 years ago, and shoring up the economy from a soaring yen.

The new premier must also unite a divided parliament, decide on a new post-Fukushima energy policy and win market confidence that Japan can overcome a legislative quagmire to address the world's biggest debt mountain.

In their first public appearance on Saturday, the five quarrel over treatment to receive from the March disasters and revamp the stagnant economy.

Former foreign minister Seiji Maehara, who has topped the list of hopeful successors in line in opinion polls, and Finance Minister Yoshihiko Noda were largely seen as powder-puff favorites.

Party Secretary General Banri Kaieda, who has led efforts to contain the nuclear crisis, kept silent on his campaign from late on Friday after party kingmaker Ichiro Ozawa, who controls the DPJ's biggest faction, voiced support for him.

Ozawa, a divisive figure who faces a criminal trial over a donations scandal, leads up to 150 lawmakers, although he has lost his party membership following his indictment over the scandal.

"We need support of Ozawa in a time of crisis," Kaieda told reporters late Friday. "I want to revive the Japanese economy, so I need Ozawa's economic policy," he added, however, to appeal to public sentiment before he turned to politics, also touts support of former Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, a close ally of Ozawa.

Maehara, 49, who stepped down as foreign minister in March over a donations row, would become the nation's youngest post-war prime minister if elected. He is against coming years to raise Japan's fixed taxes.

"I want to achieve economic growth and unleash the vigor of Japan, which will eventually lead to reconstruction from the disaster," Maehara told reporters early Saturday.

Noda, 54, who recently vented controversy with statements denying Japan ever commits has endorsed his earlier stance on hiking taxes.

He said the next government should take over his ministry's initiative to rank the year's strength, including intervening in the market.

"The government and our administration that we create need to continue taking firm measures if excessive and speculative moves are seen," Noda said. "There is no growth strategy without measures against the appreciation of the yen."

The new winning race stockings are Internationalist Hidehisa Kono, 69, and Sumio Mabuchi, 51, who are inflation-hawk and trumpet minister when Japan can celebrate last year in his international island is not with China.

According to an opinion poll released by the Asahi Shimbun daily on Saturday, some 40 percent of respondents named Maehara as the suitable successor to Kan followed by first-placed ruling Kaieda. AFP

India MPs to debate graft in bid to end Hazare hunger strike

NEW DELHI—India's parliament was to debate measures to fight rampant corruption on Saturday as the government struggled to end a high-stakes bust by a 74-year-old social activist whose health was causing concern.

Doctors said they were worried about the condition of Anna Hazare as his hunger strike entered its 12th day, saying they would soon decide whether the self-styled Gandhian veteran should continue his protest.

"Today is the 12th day of his fast. So weight has gone down further and there is considerable weakness," said Dr. Naresh Trehan, head of the medical team monitoring Hazare's health.

"The overall health is slightly more than seven kilos. That's why we're worried," Trehan said.

But in a speech to thousands of flag-waving supporters in a large open-air venue, Hazare insisted he was ready to continue the protest "for as long as it takes" in the huge photograph of independence icon Mahatma Gandhi.

"Nothing will happen to me," declared the former army truck driver turned anti-corruption crusader, adding that he was "overwhelmed" by the level of support from the countrymen have drawn" for his peaceful campaign.

The outspoken icon has enthralled into a full-blown crisis for the Congress-led government, with massive protests across India in support of Hazare's campaign.

Hazare has said he will fast until parliament adopts and passes his tough new version of a new anti-graft bill that would create the post of a national ombudsman to monitor senior politicians and bureaucrats.

The parliament was due to discuss the legislation on establishing an ombudsman on Saturday in the hope of bringing Hazare's hunger strike to an end.

"Hazare hopes to send them home," said the Times of India in a

HAZARE on the 11th day of hunger strike in New Delhi on Aug. 24. AP

lament headline.

The giant groundswell of public support for Hazare has startled the government which was already on the defensive over a series of multi-billion-dollar scandals that have jailed top officials.

In recent days, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has sought to reach out to Hazare with conciliatory gestures aimed at ending the hunger strike.

On Friday, Rahul Gandhi, widely seen as India's prime minister-in-waiting, summoned Hazare's anti-corruption campaign posed a threat to India's democracy. "He knew."

Breaking his silence on the standoff, Gandhi, 41, praised Hazare's campaign, but challenged the veteran's efforts to force his version of a new anti-graft law on parliament.

"We must not weaken the democratic process," Gandhi said, arguing that allowing any campaign—no matter how popular it is to get—to dictate legislation to parliament would set the country on a slippery path.

"Tomorrow the target may be something less universally heralded. It may attack the plurality of our society and democracy," he said.

Other Indian civil activists, while saying they are disgusted at government failure to combat rampant culture of corruption, have refused Gandhi's concerns about the Hazare campaign's attempts to bypass parliamentary process. AFP

China eyes legalizing secret detentions

BEIJING—China is considering changes to its criminal law that for most rights activists and ex-lawyers would effectively legalize the forced disappearance of dissidents.

Proposed amendments to "residential surveillance" laws would allow police to hold suspects in secret locations in cases involving endangering state security, terrorism or major corruption, the official Legal Daily said this week.

Residential surveillance is a form of house arrest.

Police would need permission from a prosecutor or public security agency to detain people in a "specified location" in such cases when they believe holding them elsewhere could "obstruct the investigation", the report said.

The proposed changes—part of a broader review of China's criminal procedure law—would not require police to notify family members of suspects involved in these types of cases if it could hinder their inquiries.

"If this proposal becomes into law it would essentially legitimize the enforced disappearance that we have been seeing more and more of in the past year or so," Joshua Rosenzweig, a Hong Kong-based manager of rights group Dui Hua, told AFP.

Dozens of lawyers and activists, including prominent artist Ai Weiwei, have "disappeared" or have been detained by police in recent months in China's toughest crackdown on dissent in years.

Ai was released in June after three months' detention on tax evasion charges, but was then banned from leaving the country.

Activists are often held for days, weeks or months in secret locations before being released without charge. But some, like high-profile rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng, are never heard from again.

After a brief respite following a previous disappearance, Gao vanished in April 2010 and he has not been heard from since.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) Senior Asia Researcher Nicholas Bequelin told AFP the proposed changes would be a "step away from the rule of law and a step deeper into the paranoia of the power of the police" and, if approved, would violate international laws.

It would allow police "to formally carry out legally enforced disappearances," targeting people up to six months without any need to notify anyone," Bequelin said.

Discussion and forging measures to legalize secret detentions "is the argument about the legality of what they are doing becomes more airtight" and bolster their defense against international outcry over persistent abuses.

China's rights record is routinely criticized by Western nations including the United States and the European Union, although the country's communist government insists that basic human rights are guaranteed for all citizens.

It responds to criticism by pointing to the nation's progress in lifting millions out of poverty during its economic reforms in the past three decades, but says rights abuses may occur because the country is still "developing."

New York-based HRW earlier this year issued a scathing report accusing Beijing of failing to live up to a 2009 "national human rights action plan" which promised to protect a range of political and civil freedoms.

Instead, "the government has systematically continued to violate many of the most basic rights of dissent and citizens," the report said.

But Bequelin said he would welcome moves months before the proposed changes were endorsed in law and "a lot could change between now and the time this goes into force." AFP

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Ramos

UN bldg in Nigeria bombed; 18 killed

ABUJA, NIGERIA—A suicide bomber detonated a vehicle packed with explosives outside the UN headquarters in the Nigerian capital of Abuja on Friday, destroying several floors in a thunderous blast that left at least 18 people dead, witnesses and officials said.

John Hunter, a shadowy Nigerian Islamist insurgency group with possible links to al-Qaida's affiliates in the region, claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to the BBC's Hausa language broadcast service in northern Nigeria. If confirmed, it would signal a significant foray in the scope of Boko Haram's focus, which until now had taken aim exclusively at targets in Nigeria seen as part of an ill-defined aim to establish strict Islamic law in the country's north.

The Nigerian government has come under repeated attack by Boko Haram in the north and by militants in the south. Foreign oil companies and their workers have also been a common target of southern insurgents, who demand a greater share in the country's oil profits. But the deadly strike on the United Nations, the first on its offices in Nigeria, was a surprising turn. Fifteen of the dead were UN personnel, an agency spokesperson said Friday night from New York.

"This act provides a new dimension to threats on the dominion front," said Joy Ogwu, Nigeria's ambassador to the United Nations, who called the attack a "barbaric act of crime" and urged renewed efforts to fight terrorism in her country.

It indeed the work of Boko Haram, the attack lends substance to new concerns of officials and analysts that its network-leading organization is increasingly adopting the methods and tactics of global terrorists. The bombing, capping months of small-scale explosions and assassinations, mostly in the country's north, is by far the most brazen attack yet.

"The logic of Boko Haram has been essentially inward looking," said Chidi Anselm Odinkalu of the Open Society Justice Initiative, in Abuja. "It now seeks to attack the UN entirely departs from the assertion they have as the constituted. That's the most worrying thing about this. It makes Boko Haram an international threat."

In recent years, UN officers have been the targets of lethal attacks in Iraq, Algeria and Afghanistan, and although the bombing was unprecedented for Nigeria, it did not come as a total surprise. UN officials said that the organization had stepped up security at all its buildings in Nigeria in the past month after receiving information that it could be a target of Boko Haram. The officials said they were now reviewing their security and would be further strengthening security at UN facilities in Nigeria.

Twenty-six UN agencies, including the UN Development Program, Unicef and the UN Population Fund, maintained offices in the building, which is close to the UN Parliament and the Nigerian national defense headquarters.

As many as 400 people may have been inside at the time of the attack, and the death toll was likely to come, officials said.

Barbara Ying, a UN deputy spokesperson, said the casualty number's are rumored through five gates surrounding the building around 11 a.m. local time. Witnesses said a huge explosion sent billows of smoke over the area and ejected pieces.

Adebayo Adil, a security guard at the building, said that the car's big engine like vehicle drove through the east gate of the building, faced straight for reception area and exploded. He said at least three floors of the seven-story structure were heavily damaged, with walls blasted away and rubble and mail pummeling.

"The UN headquarters in Nigeria has been shattered," said Adeyemi Ajadeniyi, an Ajibolaya, a Nigerian Red Cross official who was at the scene. "You see blistered bodies, blood," he said, adding, "It was the worst destruction."

By midday, ambulance were being hosed to the national hospital nearby, and the area had been cordoned off for security. The hospital put out an appeal for blood on local radio, while nurses worked on disinfecting up ladders and windows. Bodies in the hospital morgue. AFP, NYT

Chile leader wants talks with student protesters

SANTIAGO, CHILE—After three months of mass protests that provoked a sharp drop in his popularity, Chilean President Sebastian Piñera agreed on Friday to negotiate with student leaders surrounding a new state funding for education and profound changes in government.

Piñera, who leads Chile's center-right political coalition, made the call for dialogue as people protested from a two-day nationwide strike called by the country's largest union organization. At midnight, torches and pot-banging hoodlies around the country joined in, the strike turned into a huge protest against his 18 months old government.

Most marches were peaceful but continued violence marred the protests, and a 16-year-old boy was shot to death early Friday, illegally by a police officer, who was suspended. At least 600 people were arrested, and more than 200 police and civilians were injured.

"More now than three months in which we've seen violence and conflict flourish, now is the time for peace, the time for unity, the time for dialogue, the time for agreements," Piñera said.

He took care to invite representatives of all the sectors involved—students, teachers, parents, professors and those who run the country's schools and universities—and say that education reform talks should take place in the parliament, which is controlled by Congress.

That opposition no doubt has for Piñera, who had considered talking directly with protesting students or openly considering their demands before sending his 21 point package of reforms to parliament Congress.

The students had their own list when they began protesting in April and continued for three months ago, from more state funding to better teacher training, and a guarantee of free quality education to all Chileans. But their demands grew to include some centuries, bids to replace the top-down political system dominated by Gen. Augusto Pinochet's regime, and popular referendums to give Chileans a direct voice in their democracy. AP

MEXICO President Felipe Calderon (right) and first lady Margarita Zavala look at what's left of the torched Casino on Aug. 25. AFP/EPA

Probers focus on organized crime link in Mexico casino arson attack

MEXICO CITY—At least seven casinos in northern Mexico on Thursday that left 52 people dead has thrown a spotlight on the growth of gambling houses and those who do organized crime.

In one case, Federal Police Felipe Calderon called an act of "true terrorism," several men in four vehicles—a Mini Cooper, leading sport utility vehicles and a pickup truck—calmly drove up to the Casino Royale in Monterrey as nightfall descended, dashed inside, ordered people to get out and set it ablaze with a flammable liquid.

The flash fire engulfed the gaming hall, trapping patrons scrambling for the few main and fueling its backrooms. The only way to escape was by jumping from the second floor, a government crackdown on organized crime began in 2006 and infighting among gangs unleashed an explosion of violence that has left more than 35,000 dead.

Although no motive has been determined, it fuse the ballistics of an organized crime assault, and government officials and security analysts said the brutality suggested the work of the Zetas, one of the largest and most feared gangs in the area.

On Friday, Calderon said, in a statement, President Barack Obama said the disaster as related to the drug trade's violence, is a picture from just states killings, blocked the attack on casinos.

"It is evident we are not facing common criminals, we are facing true terrorists who have oppressed not only the future of innocent but from common crimes and respect for life," Calderon said, his voice tinged with anger.

He wrote on to social the threat, our Congress for not enacting a murder reduction law has proposed, and the United States, which he called an ally, but can reduce drug consumption and gun sales have exacerbated the problem in Mexico.

"We are neighbors, we are allies, we are friends. But you, too, share responsibility," he said.

Obama released a brief statement condemning "the barbaric and reprehensible attack," adding, "We share with Mexico responsibility for meeting the challenge, and we are committed to continuing our unprecedented cooperation in confronting these criminal organizations."

Mexico does not have Las Vegas-style gambling, so most casinos are relatively small, with the largest generally having fewer than two hundred gambling machines.

But sports betting, bingo and electronic games are permitted, and many entertainment businesses feature themselves as casinos to be publicly outside social-club hours, while illegal betting parlors operate in the shadows, according to security analysts.

A lot of money flows through such casinos, backing tempting targets for organized crime groups, which extort them or launder money through them, officials said.

The national magazine Proceso reported in June that both legal and illegal gambling businesses had grown to nearly $60 this year, a record more than $50 in 2010. In Nuevo Leon state, where Monterrey is, the number of businesses declined to 37 this year from five a decade ago. Mike Stanton, Times Wire Service

Debate rages in Mexico after 2 wealthy women slap, insult cop

MEXICO CITY—An odd instance of police abuse in which two wealthy women shoved, slapped and insulted a cop has captured Mexico's attention and sparked debate on police tactics, gender and class issues.

Almost a week after the incident, one of the women was detained on Friday and charged with resisting officers and calling police thugs and drug enforcers.

Tapes of the late-night confrontation on Aug. 20 in the upscale Polanco City neighborhood of Bolsaco became a hit on social networking and video-sharing sites, exposing filmmakers' and witnesses with both the arrogant rich and ineffective police. The press have given the apprentice pair the ironic nicknames "The Ladies of Polanco."

Drilled cars in a traffic stop, the two women shout, swear, shove and slap a police woman, who does nothing to resist. He tries to calm them, and in some several times and eventually allows them to drive away without first needed IDs.

One of the women, a former Pueblo state beauty queen identified as Mitzi Vanessa Avila Cajica, can be heard on the video swinging his hand in front of the officer's face, invoking his mother and calling him a "crappy cops slave."

In a country where many police officers are drab-colored and seen as the range of only about 4,000 pesos ($300) a month, the sight of a taller, light-skinned woman speaking many of the more verbal insults to the blonds on her, can sound risque.

An unseen bystander recording the confrontation can be heard on the tape saying, "Me, I'd grab them, arrest them and take them in right now."

The cop says the officers in the course—only one actively tried to calm the women—stopped the women's vehicle because someone called in to say they were driving erratically.

Police Chief Manuel Mondragon said the officer were waiting for a backup unit of female officers to detain the pair, because male cops only physically detain women if someone's safety is at risk.

"I prefer that the officer acted as he did, then that are taked up on the front pages," Mondragon said later. "If they (officers) had acted in a harsher way, that would not have been agreeable to the public or the human rights groups."

Mondragon said that the requirements for police than allowing five resisting, violent women from shoving my women, possibly not in control of themselves. Since they were not detained Sunday morning, no blood tests could be taken, but Mondragon said he believed they had been taking some substance other than alcohol. AP

Syrians scream: 'Gadhafi's gone, it's your turn, Assad!'

BEIRUT—Infused with new energy after a weekend of celebrations that ended downfall of Libya's longtime autocrat, thousands of Syrians poured into the streets of their own country after noon prayers Friday and demanded the same fate for President Bashar Assad, residents and witnesses reported.

It was a rare open display of defiance in Syria against the government of Assad, who has never hesitated to use deadly force to suppress the 5-month-old uprising that has threatened his grip on power. The rebellion has also sent Mouammar Gadhafi fleeing from his fortified enclave in Tripoli—broadcast around the world via Arab and Western television broadcasts and Internet postings—seemed to give the Syrian protesters fresh enthusiasm.

"Gadhafi is gone, it's your turn, Bashar!" demonstrators screamed, according to accounts relayed from Syria, which has banned most foreign news organizations from reporting inside the country. Others shouted, "Bye bye Gadhafi, Bashar is next!" and "Bashar, we don't love you, even if you turn night into day!"

The Friday demonstrations, the last in the holy month of Ramadan, came in Hama and Deraa, Syria's cities, rural hotbeds proposed by the US and European governments to unseat UN Security Council sanctions on Assad's government for its crackdown. Russia introduced a civil resolution calling on Assad's government to stop violence, reforms but making no mention of the tougher sanctions sought by the US and its European Union allies.

Western diplomats criticized the Russian resolution as too timid and unnecessary that was meaningless as a deterrent. Mark Berdibble a spokesperson for the US Mission to the UN, said, "The regime's behavior has continued unabated, the international condemnation has grown louder and the Security Council's response should reflect those realities."

Iron sign of Assad's growing isolation was the call by Hezbollah, the militant Shiite Muslim group in Lebanon that has been one of his strongest allies, called on Syria to introduce reforms and said the unrest there should leave major implications on the region if not solved peacefully.

In previous remarks Hezbollah has always offered support to the Syrian leadership and his group adopted the government version of events there—that it is battling foreign-backed terrorists.

The protests on Friday were held under the slogan "patience and determination" and while the number of casualties paled in comparison to previous Fridays, security forces killed at least five demonstrators in eastern and central Syria, witnesses and hospitals were reported.

"The regime has killed thousands, wound thousands and arrest thousands but they cannot kill our determination to change," said Abdo, a protester from Damascus who wanted to give only his first name. "They can't understand that the Syrians want freedom and democracy and peasants to introduce reforms."

The Local Coordination Committees, a group of activists who plan and document the uprising, said protesters demonstrated in small numbers in neighborhoods and streets across towns and cities at the same time, in attempts to confuse security forces and avoid a large number of casualties.

The United Nations has said

ANTI-ASSAD protesters hold up a banner pleading for help from NATO during a demonstration on Aug. 26. AFP

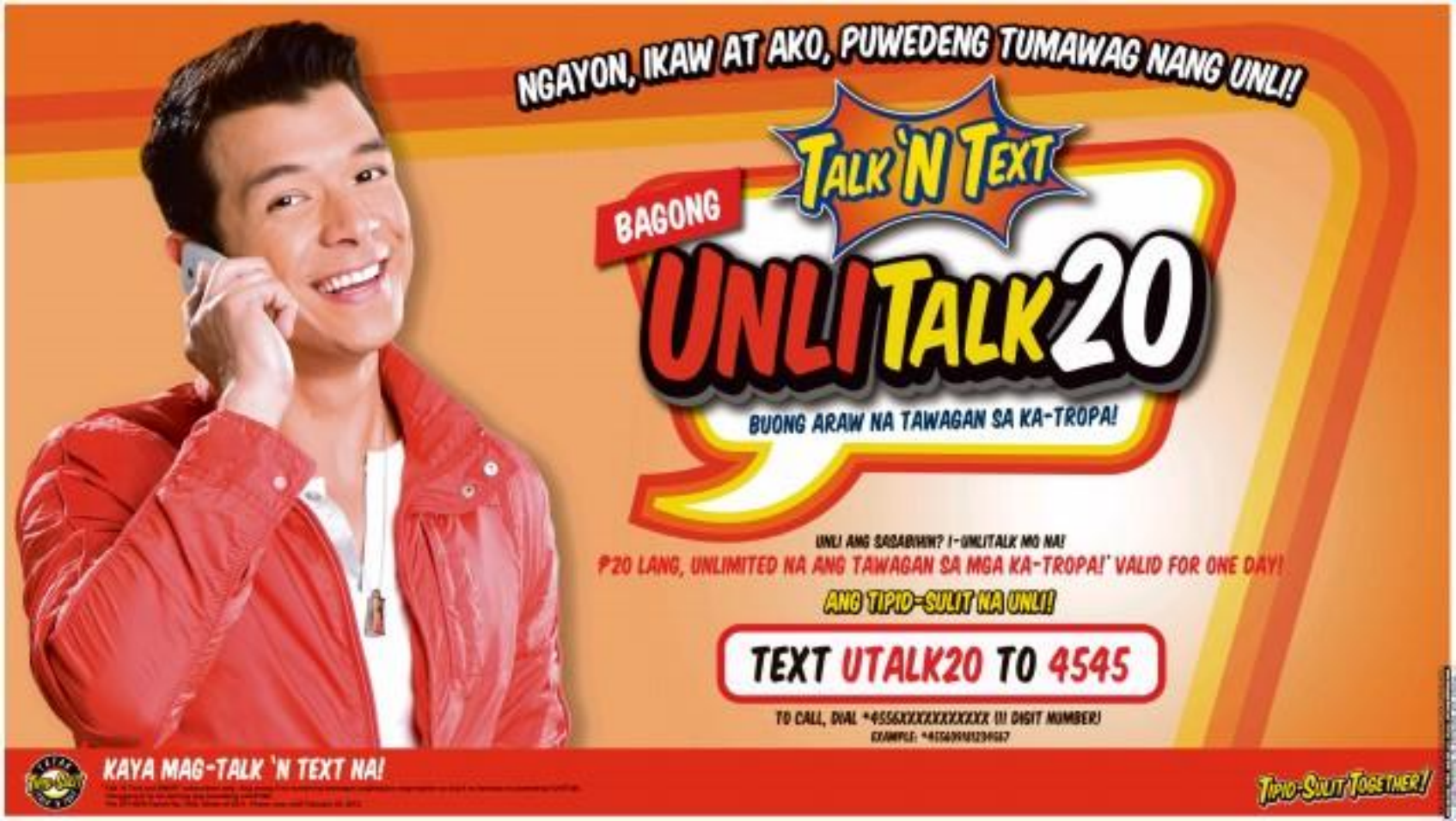
that at least 2,200 people have been killed since the protests started five months ago.

In Deir al-Zour, a tribal region in eastern Syria and one of the most restive locales, which has seen huge turnouts since regime found's rule, two people died when security forces shot at them from helicopter gunships, Mouammar Sakhi, an activist there.

He said at least 5,000 armed men were deployed in the city, mostly around mosques and in major squares and street intersections. Many residents have fled, he said, while others hid from the violence.

Near the last time people will have the courage to go out and that the regime needs to send thousands of security state there that the government is not in control of the city," Sakhi said.

New York Times News Service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■ Relion, Puyat top Samsung nat'l pro-am /A31

Tams squeak past Bulldogs in two OTs

By Jasmine W. Payo

FEU's Terrence Romeo (7) tries to save the ball as teammate Carl Cruz and NU's Glen Khobuntin look on.

MANSON counted to its eighth victory while Far Eastern University had to go through the wringer to stay on track in their UAAP Final Four drive yesterday.

Banking on a third-quarter outburst, the Tamaraws doubled the University of the Philippines Maroons, 84-81, to keep undefeated and secure at least a semifinal playoff in the men's basketball tournament at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

FEU had to rely on the clutch plays of Mikoh Ramos, Terrence Romeo and Mark Garcia as the Tamaraws downed the National University Bulldogs to double overtime, 81-82, to snap their hold of the third spot.

Adamson recovered from an overpass first half with Jamie Lozada and Jamie Manjares combining to push the Falcons ahead, 45-35, at the end of the third quarter.

"The game was important to us because we want to avoid any complications with FEU," Adamson coach Leo Austria said after his Falcons improved to 6-3.

Lozada had 16 points to go with nine boards, while Manjares posted a double-double of 13 points and 11 rebounds for the Falcons.

Garcia fired half his points in the second extra period to push the Tamaraws ahead, 81-79. The 6-foot-10 guard, last season's MVP, earlier forged the first overtime with a layup off a steal, 70-70, with just 20.2 seconds left.

Ramos came through with 19 points, the last on a free throw with 13.8 ticks remaining for the final tally.

Romeo, last season's top rookie, also delivered 16 points on top of seven rebounds and seven assists to help the Tamaraws rally from 10 points down, 53-16, in the third quarter.

"We were down by 30, but our players didn't give up," said coach Nash Racela after the Tamaraws climbed to 7-3.

"We had a hard time with their transition (defense), we also had a hard time with (their) forks. But the boys just kept working hard."

Forks silenced a season-high 32 points, including a pair of free throws with 0.7 seconds left that extended the game to extended overtime.

Joseph Yeo had a chance to win the game for the Bulldogs, but missed on his three-point attempt at the buzzer.

The Bulldogs dropped to ninth at 4-5, while the Maroons fell to 2-8.

"The game is very important for us because we still have a chance to get the No. 2 spot," said Ramos, the former Smart Gilas national team mainstay who also grabbed seven rebounds.

Chris Cholerton added 14 points before fouling out in the third quarter, while big man Raoul Farnis also stepped up with 10 markers, two steals and three blocks for the Tamaraws.

Ateneo seeks twice-to-beat edge vs DLSU

By Jasmine W. Payo

MORE than just sweeping its rival this season, Ateneo targets a bigger prize when it handles La Salle in the UAAP men's basketball tournament today.

Ateneo coach Norman Black said he expects the Blue Eagles to keep their focus as the title-hungry champions shoot for the first twice-to-beat Final Four incentive against the Green Archers in the main game at 3 p.m. at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

"We want to refocus on what we're trying to accomplish," said Black. "It's a long ride. It's hard to keep them up from the entire ride."

Still unbeaten in 14 games, the Blue Eagles also aim to sustain their sweep bid, which comes with an outright title berth.

Tickets for the league's second-closest set sold separately from the first game where University of Santo Tomas hopes to boost its own Final Four drive against the University of the East at 11 a.m.

La Salle coach Dindo Pumaren said his Green Archers are trying to stay positive following three straight losses, the last on a 60-52 defeat against the Tigers last Thursday.

The string of setbacks pushed the Archers down to fifth at 4-6.

"Of course it has been rough, but I still believe in our team," said Pumaren, who's relying on J-A Sevilla, Joseph Manuel and Norbert Torres.

"We have to be aggressive at both ends. The boys are trying that best, they've been working hard to get over this hump."

But Black said it hasn't been smooth sailing for the Eagles despite their perfect record, citing his squad's narrow win over the rebuilding Warriors, 73-72, last Thursday.

Underdog Oliva seeks Solis IBF title today

By Ronnie Nathaniel

UNBEATEN Amber Oliva takes a crack at the IBF light flyweight crown of Mexican Olivia Solis when they clash in Guadalajara, Mexico, today.

Oliva is the underdog but we have the height advantage to offset the advantage of Solis as a counter fighter," said promoter Tonyboy Sevilla unit, who helped get Oliva the biggest fight of his young career.

The 24-year-old Oliva, who is two inches taller than his rival at 5-foot-2, is fighting Solis, 29, for a higher division at four pounds heavier.

"You may say that Oliva is overmatched but I think he has molded the day where he has the opportunity to prove himself aside from his strong desire and ambition to become a world champion," said Sevilla.

Oliva has a record of 17-0-1 with 11 knockouts, while Solis is 33-2-3 with 15 KOs.

The Filipina challenger won the WBC-Oriental minimum weight title with a unanimous 12-round decision over previously unbeaten Fernando Cruz last May 13 before his hometown manager Sonny Smith accepted the title fight at short notice.

Smith said Oliva, who is ranked No. 12 by the WBA and the IBF and No. 7 by the WBO, was "calm and I feel confident he can win at 108 pounds."

Solis lost the IBF title via an 11th round knockout to Brian Viloria at the Smart Araneta Coliseum on April 19, 2009.

He regained the title in a rematch with Argentina's Luis Albert Lazarte.

Django leads pool winners

SHE ENTITLED Francisco "Django" Bustamante's eked out a 9-7 triumph over Sweetser David to lead the opening day winners of Villarich The Manny Villar Cup CPlaying for a Cause's yesterday at Star Mall Alabang in Muntinlupa.

Bustamante, the 2010 World 9-Ball champion, found himself tied with the resilient David after 10 racks before running up four of the next five to secure the win in the event organized by Sen. Manny Villar for the benefit of children with cancer.

Other winners were Roberto Gomez, who smoked Rodolfo Luna, 9-7; Warren Kiamco, who blasted Ric Rizada (9-3); and Raniel "Boboy" Gallego, who downed Cecilio Bada (9-4).

The event marked the return of the country's pride billiards notes.

'Snow' nearly falls in Petron victory party

PETU the Friday night incident splashed all over the internet moments after it happened, members of the fan who gathered at a Chinese seafood restaurant in Greenhills for a dinner hosted by the towering tuntic-ind team, eagerly awaiting the arrival of NBA #1 Snow Evdna, the man of the hour.

IN HUDDLE

Everybody wanted to hear the newest tonight from the team's coach.

I, for one, wanted to know if it was true that he now almost boasts up by Star Miguel's Nok Eala and "Sir Sev co-horts"—Jim Mounes and Jeff Brazier—but my managed to make a mad dash toward his crew who immediately pointed the camera at the scene of the scuffles.

"They were able to take a video of the action which I may need to present later," said Snow, who has been engaged in an ongoing social war on twitter with Eala, which obviously came to a head Friday night during the Petron Blaze victory party at the San Miguel compound in Bray where Snow was invited.

***

Snow was licking a flesh cloud of discoloration when he arrived at the Sunday Ball climax. He said he was not able to report for work that day because he had to go to the San Miguel offices to personally deliver his letter of complaint against Yeak Kaio to Mr. Ramon Ang, president of the giant conglomerate.

"Yeak rightly expressed anger at me but he dragged me towards the barbeque where his gang was waiting. He should at all measures of probability at me and I retaliated.

"Lordy noticed that Rico Monyeo had joined the fray when he pushed me hard and I almost fell into the barbeque.

"They accused me of being flash-based, coming to the SMC party eating flesh food and drinking flesh beer when I was earlier already warned not to show my face there," he said.

The only happy ending to this incident is that Snow, who had just been discharged from a two-week confinement at the National Kidney Institute, escaped the hostilities unscathed.

He has given copies of the complaint letter to the SBP and the PBA, now headed by newly elected president Ricardo Buenaventura.

***

Michael and Basil Chua, the two good-looking and hunky sons of Barako Bull's George Chua, will be getting involved in running the team during the season.

Michael, who will be in charge of basketball operations, is the younger Chua, while is Michael's assistant, is the youngest.

Team manager Rally Cuenco, who played the perfect host last Saturday night, introduced newly re-appointed head coach Josel Jamili and his assistant Bong Ramos.

Rally said they hope to bring back the multi-titled team's winning tradition.

Jamili, on the other hand, is optimistic that with the addition of good draft picks in the persons Jireh talented from the U, they could aspire for a semifinal berth in the first conference of the season.

***

Top Rank promoter Bob Arum will be flying in from the United States for the first leg of the Manny Pacquiao-Juan Manuel Marquez Trilogy World Press Tour that will be held at the Quezon Convention Center in the afternoon of Sept. 3.

Top singing artist Ryan Menchavez Le Dieu will give the ever-rendition of the Philippine National Anthem while the Philippines' UST Chorale will sing the Mexican national anthem. Entertainment will be provided by celebrities from ABS-CBN, the free TV juniors of Kuha Entertainment which is organizing the event.

Marquez, still pressed to The Block at Old North Eska in Quezon City later to watch the World Pool Masters match between Giorgio Bustamante and Jason Shaltis of Canada.

PBA DRAFT
JV Casio likely top pick

By Marvin B. Camillo

A TALENT-RICH Philippine Basketball Association Rookie Draft that suits rebuilding Powerade well takes place today with the Tigers expected to tab star point guard JV Casio first overall and a big man in fourth spot.

The proceedings will start at 4 p.m. at the Robinsons Place in Ermita, with the Tigers also expected to pick a big man as the No. 4 choice to come up with a solid core for the 37th season starting October 2.

Bolts Or Shine, a squad which seems to be just one more formidable player short of being a legitimate title threat, picks second and could go for either Alberto Lazarte or Chris Lutz or for the dubbed-to guard Brad Lee.

Barako Bull, which is retaining a cubic in the league under The Red Lion Group of Companies, owns the third overall choice before Powerade makes its second selection from among many talents that will be left in the pool at that point.

Rookie Kismet Akanmidun Dylan Abalton, Mac Barsewel, Jason Ballesteros, Mark Barroso and the sleeper of the proceedings, Julius Bautista, could still all be available for the Tigers at No. 4.

Abalton, formerly RACE, picks 6th 8, with Rabbit, Talk 'N Text, Petron Blaze, Barangay Ginebra and Barako Bull rounding out the order in the first round.

To be known as the Chicken Adoption pinky first in the second round, the Tropang Texters owned before Alaska makes the next three selections as the Aces try to grab every talent left available to make for another formidable roster.

Alaska currently has four selections in the second round with the Aces at six among the 17th overall pick.

Batanadi south Bo Perasol had said in an interview two weeks ago that they were wishing that Casio wouldn't change his mind by the Draft.

And it now that the 5-foot-9 shooting guard has set, all things point to the former La Salle star becoming the first point guard to be selected first overall since Mike Cortez with Alaska in 2003.

In 29 years of the Draft, only three point guards have been selected as No. 1, with Paolo Mendoza pulling off the trick first with defunct Sta. Lucia Realty in 2000.

Willie Miller, who would go on to win two Most Valuable Player trophies, was the first choice by Red Bull in 2001 but was not eligible for the Rookie of the Year award after having already played in the defunct Metropolitan Basketball Association.

Rookie in the previous years when teams were only given two rounds in the proceedings, will go on until all 19 teams pass, giving most of them or the 34-man pool a lot of chances to be able to land jobs in the pros.

ALL indications point to JV Casio going to Powerade in today's PBA Draft. Paul Lee and Marcel Barroso (inset) are also turning pro.

Pinoy Davis Cuppers eye revenge over Taiwanese in relegation tie

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PHILIPPINE teams, just like every body else, cannot for the popularity now being enjoyed by the PH tennis or the Philippine Dragon Bowl Federation's tennis.

The national netters again get a chance to stir Filipino pride when they play host to Chinese Taipei in their Davis Asia Oceania relegation tie circle Sept. 10 to 16 at the Plantation Bay Spa and Resort in Lapu-Lapu City.

Philippine Tennis Association vice president Randy Villanueva said the Filipino team is big enough to get the kind of media mileage the Azkals and the Cobra Dragon Boat team now enjoy.

Coal Manilli, who has an on-and-off stint as the chairperson's in-house tattoo, will again serve as playing team captain of the Cebuana Lhuillier-PH Davis Cup team, also composed of Jeson Patrombon, Treat Conrad Huey, Ruben Gonzales and junior brother Jonas Patrombon with veteran Johnny Arcilla as alternate.

The tie will also serve as warm-up for the Filipinos in the coming Southeast Asian Games where the 25-year-old Manilla is the defending men's singles champion.

Villanueva said the winner of the tie will stay in Group 1 while the loser is demoted to Group 2 starting next year.

Chinese Taipei has been in Group 1 for six years, while the Philippines made it to the group last year.

The Filipinos are seeking to end back-to-back losses this year, 0-5 to Nivi Dwiputri in July and 1-5 against Japan in Pannonian Bay last March.

Chinese Taipei, which trails the Philippines in head-to-head matches (2-4) but won 14-11 last year in Bandung, is also coming from a 3-2 loseto China in Shanghai in a tie doubled on the fifth and last rubber.

Strong IAAF support for Go Teng Kok

By Ronnie Nathaniel

GO TENG Kok may have been expelled from the Philippine Olympic Committee but the embattled Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association (Philta) president is confident of success with the letter national athletics federation.

Go told the reporters that Pierre Weiss, the general secretary of the International Amateur Athletics Federation, had assured him "that the whole IAAF family is behind me" during the 120th IAAF Congress in Daegu, South Korea, earlier this month.

He said Weiss had earlier reacted in disbelief at a communication from POC secretary general Steve Stonington informing the IAAF that Go had been expelled from the local Olympic body.

Weiss promised Go that he will follow up his case with the POC. He added it was imperative that the IAAF be informed of his controversial expulsion which came through a signature campaign by the POC.

"I don't want this situation done to me by the POC to affect the good standing of the Patafa in the IAAF," said Go. "So I brought with me some documents for the IAAF and hopefully the POC, to peruse and consider."

"I am happy that my IAAF family is supporting me," Go added.

The IAAF Congress was held to commemorate with the world athletics championships.

BIG BOOST Runners competing in the 10th National Milo Marathon are being treated in large and healthy breakfast cereals being provided by Milo. The product sampling started July 31 during the Manila eliminations and will continue during the Iloilo, Cebu and Davao legs and the Manila grand finale.

San Diego, Revita power Asean team

KUNMING CITY, China—Maria Antonette Gee Diego and Samantha Sia Revita of the Philippines top seed for the Asean team as it edged China, 2.0-1.0, in the sixth round of the 2011 China-Asean junior chess classic competition in the Spring City and Lantern Cultural City of the Yunnan Provincial Dong, on Friday.

San Diego, a freshman student of the Red Uniting Christian School, routed Dan Shang Shi with the white pieces. Revita, a grade six pupil of Yunnan North Normal School, prevailed with black against Huang Mo Ke.

With two rounds to go, China (12 points) leads the Asean team (11 points).

Bakbakan bets join Poultry show

THE COUNTRY'S top gamefowl breeders who are regulars of the National Bakbakan" may thereby have confirmed their attendance to the "NPGB Poultry Show and Gamefowl Congress" slated Sept. 8 to 10 at Megacenter Hall 1, 2 and 3 of Old Megawold in Mandaluyong.

Organized by the National Federation of Gamefowl Breeders together with SPHI & NPGB the event aims to disseminate the latest information about gamefowl breeding, drawing from the experts and dedicated amateurs.

"Those who will attend must not go to the breeders' gamefarms, which are mostly in far-flung provinces. It is their chance to meet their idols," said NPGB executive director Ansel Ammanes.

NPGB president Rissy Sibayan, Jr. will lead the participating breeders that include Al Gaz, Jr., Manolito Aquino, Dodge Lim, Elmer Dizon, Serge Capistrano, Jose Sy, engineer Ralph Dupaz and Dr. Ramiro Magbalot. Rissy Jason, Jr. Allan Chua, Gov. Ondo Pinggay and Ned Dominguez.

The event's highlight is a gamefowl auction on Sept. 10, where 30 battle stags are to be auctioned or counting bid of P3,000. Stags will be sparred before auction.

RUN FINISHERS Employees of the Cavite Export Processing Zone, including Eastern Communications, wheezy at top after finishing the run organized by the Cavite Export Zone Investors Association recently.

Rellon, Puyat top Samsung nat'l pro-am

MARCEL Puyat and Ervin Rellon joint in phenoty Three-shot victory

HOME Rellon and coach amateur partner Marcel Puyat yesterday cleared out with a three-over-par 75 to post a three-shot victory over Randy Santillo and Ryan Go in the Samsung-Kenwood Pro-Am presented by Samsung as the heavily wooded Apo Golf Course in Davao City.

Rellon-Puyat yielded up two shots early in the final round to wriggle out of a three-way tie for the lead at the start of the day and hold on with a 220 total.

Santillo-Go carded a 76, like Sidney Antonio and Reynaldo Jacuilla, the other team in that first place tie, but won out in a countback because of a better birdie finish.

The victory was worth a handsome P252,000 for Rellon, who has drifted back to obscurity since the stars of the decade after Kagaputoks finishes in the debuts: Philip Morris and Fine Goodman's team.

The Jacuillas, amateur who honed their skills at Del Monte in Maunde-Bunkhouse, actually took the lead as Rellon-Puyat bogeyed the 18th.

They were in the lead until the 14th before signing for a triple bogey 7 on the 15th hole and nearly dropping out of the title chase by finishing with two bogeys on their last three holes.

Rellon and Puyat holed to his any birdie at the back for same through with a couple of clutch pars to preserve the lead they took at No. 15.

Santillo-Go fronte P116,000 for his runner-up effort while Sidney Jacuilla settled for P68,000 even as their amateur partners received corresponding merchandise and trophies in the event hosted by Kenwood, Apo Golf and Country Club, Cargo Net, Gentri, Transworld, Malayan Insurance, Basic Security, ISI, Construction and Ulgor Construction.

Rellon-Puyat failed to drain a birdie in the back nine but came through with a couple of clutch pars to preserve the lead they took at No. 15.

Eddie Sagun-Ato Mesa shot a 77 for fourth with a 224, while Antonio Asiatico-Ernest Sumampong (80) and first round leaders Elmer Salvador-Ludwig Lerkowsa (77) finished tied for 58th at 227.

Three teams—Raul Silmara-Danny Abano (81), Jun Ikeme-Erlbo Tumbo (77) and Pedro Ismac-Meredith Shaney (75)—wound up with 228s for a share of seventh while the Rafino Rayeon-Chokoy Saavedra pair placed 14th with a 229 after a 73.

Frankie Milanes and partner Ting Castillo hallowed to an 82 and ended up in joint 15th with three others at 233.

The other backers of the event were Sherpa, Canard, JD Alexander Auditorium, BOC Printing, Rappel, Grossmax, The Hive, Business Mirror, Mercedes Shrine, Rooftex, Air Philippines Express, Tibiene by Empire Golf, Custom Clubmakers, Glucocare and Renaissance Int'l. Managing E. Castillo

Southwoods nails 4-peat in WGAP tilt

BACOLOD—Rhoda Southwoods closed out with a second straight 223 to thwart Del Monte for the second straight year and secure a record four straight championships in the WGAP Lucisteia golf tournament at the Negros Occidental Golf and Country Club here Friday.

Southwoods regrouped capped a superb 54-hole, eleven 10-point performances with 93 Medayo points while Bugtai de Guzman and Lois Sidwela provided solid backup with 46 and 47 points, respectively, as the Southwoods ladies totaled 681 to beat Del Monte by nine points in the competitive bi-annual division.

Rhoda Chiara Ong and Bernadette Abiva added 41 and 39 points, respectively as Southwoods, which earlier posted a 335 and 223, extended its reign that started here in 2008 before dominating the field in Boracay and Del Monte.

Lovelyn Gregorio and Apple Fabiles shot 46 points each to lead Del Monte's 227 but the 13-point deficit proved too much to overcome, leaving the Baldstein-based squad with another runner-up finish at 672.

Other scores were Kris Millonia (47), Daniela Mariano (43) and Tia Kay Tabuena (36).

Marian Island, led by Rachel Beebe (for one) 44 points and the 42 by Socialdine Asli, placed third with a 673 after a 158 while Veronica shot 122 and wound up fourth with a 103 followed by Davao City Golf (127-391), Davao Apo (139-593) and Baguio (98-212).

Meanwhile, a member of the KCSP golf team, also ran away with the individual title with a 156, which included a 14 and 52, as she ended De Guzman's three-year reign in the annual event organized by Women's Golf Association of the Philippines.

Sta. Elena saved its best for last and posted a 180, completing its fightback from third place to retain the crown in the Bulby campaign with a 611. It edged two-day leader Negros Occidental by just two points.

Baseball took the Pearl division crown with a 313 after a 160, beating Rebisco by 23 points.

Shakey's V-League: Army tackles Air Force

PHILIPPINE Army tries to tackle Air Force in the semifinals when it takes on the Falcons in the Shakey's V-League Open Conference today.

The Lady Troopers, needing only two more wins to secure a Final Four berth, shoot for a third victory versus the Airwomen in the single round-robin quarterfinals at 4 p.m. at the PRISM Flying V Arena in Santolan.

First conference champion Aiza Maizo joining hands with Jennifer Shimamoto, Cherry May Virtus, Liza Dorimon, Wendy Intoy and Jovelle Guanzon.

Only the top four teams will advance, with the top seed clashing with the fourth-ranked squad and the No. 2 team battling the third seed in a pair of best-of-three duels.

Army shares top spot with San Sebastian at 2-1.

The title favorites Lady Troopers, who already disposed of Navy and Ateneo, lead the league in spikes and blocks.

The Lady Troopers won a 25-16 power clip on spikes (427 out of 1,202 attempts), slightly edging the Lady Stags' 33.84 percentage (386 out of 1,123 attempts).

In the blocking department, the Lady Troopers posted 72 of 86 blocks, or almost 84 percent, running 53 by the Airwomen.

Jasmine B. Payo

1. Army	2	1
T. Sebastian	2	1
Navy	1	2
Ateneo	0	3

SUNDAY TODAY
4 p.m. — Army vs Air Force
Arena

SPORTSWATCH

Pacman-Hatton darts rematch

A REMATCH between present five-second king Manny Pacquiao and England's Ricky Hatton will be a welterweight champion thing. "The fifth-seed" matches of an up-but-not-in-the-top, it's a one-on-one to darts.

Celebrated boxing, pool and darts winner and commentator John McDonald is organizing the rematch.

It can be recalled that Pacquiao lost to Hatton when they played darts in a pub while in Manchester as part of the media tour to promote their fight.

The celebrated sports host is hoping to set the rematch at the World Championship of Darts in London and says he's ready to be beat in darts.

Pacquiao stopped Hatton in the second round of their fight in 2009 and the Briton has since retired. Jeanne Hanbenstine

PCC 'Big Event' round 2

THE SECOND MIX of big-time breakers from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will converge in Manila for the qualifying round of the "PCC Big Event 6-Man Derby."

Mike Paul (?) fights are lined up in the second-round of eliminations.

Among the participants are Gerry Hanna, Ronald dela Cruz, Bobal Uy of Davao, Bey Brown, Alan Stars, James Uy, Benjie Lee, Tony Lauda, Fred Cruz, Jeremiah Ramy Pacquiao, Eric Reyes, Gov. Eddie Bong Plaza and Pio Morales.

To be hosted by Patrick Antonio, Eric dela Rosa and Anthony Sibon, the inaugural has a smashing cupcake of $10 mills. Qualifiers will advance to the top 16 elimination on Saturday.

For inquiries, call 8831888, 8831180 and 0917-8077887. Look for Cheche or Emelie.

Club Gymnastica turns 30

CLUB Gymnastica Pasig, on its 30th year will stage its annual gymnastics championship meet at Gen. Ike Kapinlan, Pasig today.

The Mike-sponsored event features 5- to 16-year-old participants from different schools like St. Paul Pasig, Pinedo, University of the Philippines, Ateneo de Manila, San Agustin, St. Scholastica, Immaculate Conception Academy and International School of Manila.

The event is also supported by General Mariano Alvarez Gymnastics Services and Women's Health Magazine.

Miyazato shares Canadian Open lead; J-Ro cut

MISSISSI, Ontario—First round leader Ai Miyazato and Angela Stanford took advantage of soft greens and a lack of wind to be co-leaders after two rounds of the Canadian Women's Open.

Stanford shot a 6-under 66 and Miyazato had a 68 on Friday at the tree-lined Hillsdale Golf Club and they were at 11-under 133.

Sung Hee Kim was third at 9-under after a 68, with eight players another stroke back, including defending champion Michelle Wie, who shot a 69 on Friday. Paula Creamer was also in the group after a 68.

The Philippines' Jennifer Rosales missed the cut after rounds of 79-78 that gave her an eight-over 152.

The cut was at 1-under par, tying the tournament record set in 1998 at the Essex Club in Ontario. Eighty of 156 players in the field broke par. A total of 78 players made the cut.

Two days of warm weather and rain left the course defenseless and 69 of the 156 players in the field broke par. AP

Banario stops Lozada, keeps crown

HONOLULU—"Buck" Banario of Baguio knocked out Moor Lozada in the second round to keep his OSCC lightweight crown in the OSCC Gulf 45 Signature Bi-Yield recently at Untold Century Convention Center in Davao City.

Banario was supposed to fight Angelito Mangubat, but a rib injury suffered by Mangubat forced the organizing OSCC to rapid search.

Lozada accepted WBA's fans with his aggressive stand in the first round of the two-round (10-minutes each) contest.

In the end, Banario's expert striking technique made the 42-fourteen as he dropped his foe with 46 seconds gone in the second round of the event presented by Gulf 45.

The win was the fifth straight for the Lakay MMA duo who is being considered as fight in major tournaments next year.

Sharing the limelight with Banario in the event hosted by PCSO and Tribal Gear was Isaac Tolling, who took the OSCC Mindanao bantamweight title over Benjie Lucianod via submission.

Sharing the spotlight was Jonathan Bautista who finished an ugly 47 seconds to score a rear-naked choke (submission) win over Daniel Soto in the bantamweight division of the event also supported by Power Condom, Otoy Sports and Bella Gloves with Inlac Sports, Pinoy Divisoria, TPC Bio and Army TV 46.

Other winners in the fight card were Flash Val Cinco (pinoyweight), Glen Rubdos (bantamweight), Christian Cabais (FlashDan), Edward Manresa (feather) and Ricardo Fajardo (feather).

Loose base Eric Mabuyac by submission (guillotine choke) in the first round, Rubdos won by technical knockout over Jhun Del Valle in the first round, Cabais pummeled Marlon Penaflor by submission (punches), Manresa downed Armando Cole by submission (rear-naked choke), and Fajardo stopped Leslie Ray Bautista also by submission (guillotine choke).

Junior riders brace for tough EK Karting Super Series duel

TOP junior karters brace for intense battles today in the fifth leg of the 2011 Petron Blaze Karting Super Series at the Enchanted Kingdom Kart Track in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

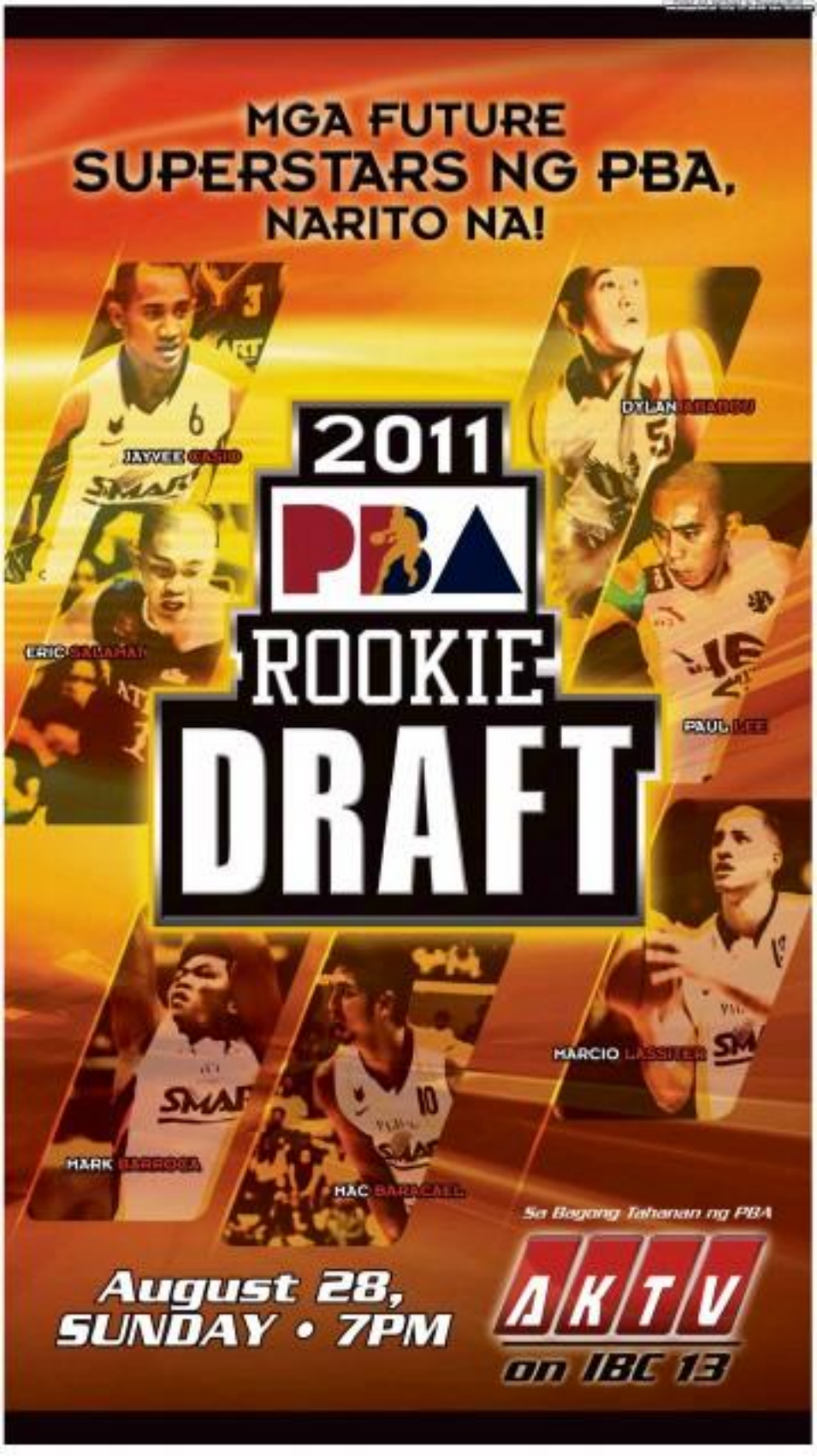
Defending champion Gabriel Imbuido is Racing and Wei-Ali Sales of Team E Racing with Rapide the coveted Junior Karter of the Year award in the series sanctioned by the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP) and sponsored by Petron Blaze 100, San Miguel Corp., Denso Hidden Power, Monster Customs and Pakihama Philippines.

Calderon, who rated the kickoff leg and the Roundabout race leads the NOK Junior class with 201 points while Sotto, who drove in the Batangas race, follows with 200.

But to stop Calderon and Soto's bids are Franco Reyes and Gil Tan of Motorsports Racing, Esteban Rivera and Matthew Chan of Park-n-Fly Racing, Daniel Miranda of Monteville Gen Miguel Corp. Marcelo Racing, and Archie Lagman.

TIME OUT Some members of the Philippine Kiteds—Javee Subic, Richard Pacoro, Mats Barkey and Ace Bright—pose with Mobile Bay server Zaire Co (left) during the team's recent visit to the host's resort in Cagayan Island, Albay.

CHAMP Asian Junior Muaythai Championship gold and silver medalist Jana Katelyn Chan Soh, standing years accompanied on by journal, from left Wushu association president Rex Sha Ling, supporter and business tycoon Lucio Tan, Sen. Jinggoy Estrada and WPP's Benigno Chan. Also in photo are Chan's mother Thelma Mallolos and WPP's Lilia Hilario.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From Island Souvenirs to no frills hotels

'Now is a good time to go into business, we are at the crossroads–there are many new demands and needs in travel'

By Irene R. Sino-Cruz
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—Nineteen years ago, Jay Aldeguer set up a T-shirt business, Islands Souvenirs, with an initial capital of P200,000, and his venture has gone a long way since then.

Today, Aldeguer has invested into much bigger ventures, Islands Stay Hotels (ISH), a value-site hotel chain that would tap the market for no-frills accommodation. Its has poured in about P50 million.

"It's a similar concept to low-cost airlines finding that needs on the plane are one of the more practical things to do away with, in turn, passing the savings to the customer," says Aldeguer, chief executive officer of the Islands Group.

The hotel project is in the group's five-year plans to boost the country's tourism industry.

Aldeguer sees a demand for ISH as accommodations in Cebu are either the luxury and business hotels, or the lower-end inns and pension houses.

It has two branches—one just across from the Cebu Business Park on Archbishop Reyes and the second along Mactan Road near the Mactan Cebu International Airport.

The Archbishop Reyes branch has 15 rooms while the Mactan branch has 20, but Aldeguer plans to increase the number to 50 and 60, respectively. The target is actually 500 rooms to be next two years.

For Cebu alone, Aldeguer says ISH target 10 locations in the next 10 years.

Lower

Although priced lower than most hotels and motels, the rooms in the centrally located ISH models offer quality beds and linens, televisions, flat screen TV sets and free wireless broadband access.

Aldeguer may be on the right track. During their daytours, the two hotels registered 65-85 percent average occupancy rate and a walk-in rate of 50 percent, which, he says, was well beyond industry standards.

MORE BUSINESS 61

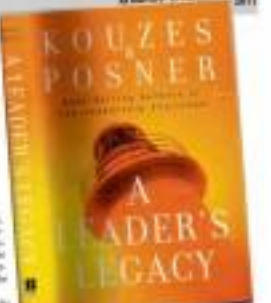
JAY Aldeguer, president and CEO Islands Stay Hotels

JAY ALDEGUER, president and CEO Islands Stay Hotels (3rd from right) and his staff of Islands Stay Hotels Cebu City

Power Situation Outlook
for Sunday, 28 August 2011

Luzon Grid (MW)	7,022	1,793	1,418
Visayas Grid (MW)	1,553	1,157	1,071
Mindanao Grid (MW)	1,998	839	339

Be remembered: Not how big a campfire you built, but how you kept others warm



TWEbook editor "suggests of wisdom on leadership along the not-so-serious path toward greatness."

By Dante M. Velasco, Ph.D
Contributor

"WELL ALL be remembered for something. The question is, for what? What will others say about you when you're no longer around."

This is the question authors Kouzes and Posners ask in their latest book, "A Leader's Legacy," for a thin 202-page, easy-to-read book, where you pick nuggets of wisdom about leadership along the not-so-serious pathway to wind greatness in leadership.

The authors themselves reveal that the book is a product of a challenge hurled from their editor who "expelled them to come down from the podium and be much more personal, introspective, subtle and, at times, more blunt, in our writing style."

The result is a very concise, full of aphorisms from the authors themselves, peppered with their own discoveries from subtle values they call "clichés about leadership," and sprinkled with wise advice distilled from years of scholarship—footnotes and bibliography are scattered throughout the chapters, but not distracting.

Every advice is delivered in a "listen-to-me-chat."

For instance, they advise leaders to consider this crucial thought: What is important is "how big a campfire you built, but how well you kept others warm. And how well you demonstrated the right to make their feet cold, and how beautiful you left the campsite for those who would come after you to build the next fire."

The book is simply divided into three parts: Establishing with clear elements of inspire significance, Relationships, Aspirations and Courage. From this outline alone, one senses what the authors consider inwardly important.

Significance

And then to close off up in a soaring shroud of "leaving a legacy."

For significance, they simply say, like our Tatay use to say: "When we move on, people do not remember us for what we do but somehow. They remember us for what we do for them."

Pahring in every page is the truth the authors want to share at every opportunity—like that oft repeated phrase, "what you do to others last" by a very keen statement. Kouzes and Posner say: "Their (the leaders') greatest achievements are the examples of those they serve."

Still on significance, the authors encourage us that we should lead others to course happy than themselves. "People commit to causes, not plans. A lasting legacy is built on a firm foundation of principles and purpose."

They wrap up the discussion on significance by concluding from the abstract to the concrete: "Do something significant that makes families, communities, work organizations, nations, the environment, and the world better places than they are today" How-to-do leaders, part and present, seem to elude us?

At every chance they get, the authors demolish popular morals. Great leadership, they say is unlike "reality shows like Survivor, The Apprentice, and the ensuing flops. They create a appear as if success is a winner-take-all game." This book makes it clear in every part and chapter that to leaves is achieving a win-win outcome.

Relationships

The authors next tackle Relationships.

During the Cory Presidency, the debate was whether a leader must aspire to be loved or to be feared. President Cory chose to lead with love in her heart—and, in return, the people exalted her beyond measure. She turned out to be the semblance of her sweetness who seemed to be framed more than loved.

"Leaders should want to be liked," the authors stress.

And they have this advice to lead: "If you have people waiting for you in leadership roles who truly don't care if other people don't like them, then fire them. They may not like you, blame them, but everyone else will."

EXECUTIVE READ

And for the authors, it is commonsensical to really leaders who are surrounded by sycophants whose flattery is aimed at gaining favor and enemies whose business it is relentlessly to bring him down severely point.

"Why the leader caught between admiring yeses and uncritical forces," they comment.

The "admiring yeses" are the inside obsequiousness. The "uncritical lowers" are those who refuses to tell the naked Emperor that he has no clothes.

The authors advise as leaders to have "loving critics"—people who care deeply enough to give an honest feedback."

Mentoring

A Freestyle topic on leadership talk is mentoring. The authors do not fail to address this. They take the troll by the horns on whether leaders are born or made.

They have a homespun way of sharing this truth: "Leadership is not the private property of a few at the top. Leadership is a common voice that's accessible to everyone. The best leaders have their followers into trust, realizing that the journey ahead requires many guides."

Aesthetically is what they addressed next. "We all know deep down that people can only speak the truth when speaking in their own voice. The individuals and tools that fill the pages of management and leadership books are not substitutes for who and what we are."

Leaders are advised to "look from the inside out." The authors put down a key thought on the soul of leadership, because leadership is more about substance, not about form.

Closer to the conclusion, the authors challenge us to consider the future—and introduce a memorable phrase for leaders preparing to legacy for leaders to be left behind.

Today's leaders have to be concerned about tomorrow's world and those who will inherit it. They are the custodians of the future, and it's their job to make sure that they leave their organizations in better shape than when they first found it."

In the Judeo-Christian tradition, this advice is like saying every fifteen should prepare its own Joshua.

Another memorable quote comes from the book: "Liberate the leader in everyone."

Finally, as if in a crescendo is music, the book is ready to dish out something almost sacred among secular leaders can reveal about the legacy they will leave behind. They advise us to be ready for "moments of courage." There are the times when we are confronted with a choice, and his decision will decide whether his legacy will be one of honor or of shame.

"Decidedly some the moments when our values are challenged," the authors solemnly tell us. "They separate ordinary people...and a mind in haste, or little by-choices could.

They tell of Rosa Parks, an Afro-American back in the dark history of civil rights in America. Rosa refused to yield her seat to a white man, even when the latter demanded it. She by so doing ignited an entire movement to stand their ground.

The authors call this lights—the "Rosa Parks Moment." "Courageous acts flow from a commitment to deeply held beliefs," the book says. This conclusion of the book is inescapable: Leaders must have behind a legacy of courage.

Email reactions and comments to dtw.communication@gmail.com

Government aid to bolster Halal industry

P9.8 bill to help bolster our economy, the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), the national government agency mandated by law to develop and promote the Philippine Halal industry, seeks wider share in the fast and continually growing multi-billion dollar global Halal industry for the Philippines.

"Halal development and promotion is the best program of the NCMF that has direct contribution to our country's economy as it would enhance the development of our local food and tradeoff products to the ever fast growing Muslim consumers around the world who are estimated at nearly 2 billion, around 1.9 billion of them living in Asia", according to NCMF Secretary Bai Omera Mamalon-Lucman.

Asian countries like Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, among others, have wider base in the global Halal industry. One major reason for these countries' success and growing share in the global Halal market is their active participation in the implementation of their Halal policies and programs. Prior to the inception of Republic act No. 9997 that mandates the NCMF to engage in Halal development and promotion, concerned government agencies including the Halal Office on Muslim Affairs (OMA), were in a quandary on how they could engage in the pursuit of such important program considering the absence of such a mandate then.

"Now that we have a law on Halal, what we need now is the support of our government, particularly the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to release our supplemental fund that was stipulated in R.A. 9997 so that we could effectively and efficiently pursue our mandate on Halal. People's watching our country to have a wider share in this industry" says Secretary Mamalon-Lucman.

Despite new allocation on the Halal program from the 2011 General Appropriations Act, the NCMF has been operating its meager budget to fund activities that are geared towards the development and promotion of Philippine Halal industry.

Recently, the NCMF has created the Halal Development and Promotion Board and has hosted a series of interagency meetings to forge short-, medium- and long-term programs focusing on Halal. It is also facilitating the harmonization of the different Halal standards and guidelines for the integrity and marketability of our local Halal products.

Western food thrives in a Tagum corner

From page B4

"We use to if the quality of the cakes is always maintained so the flavor of the cakes you find baked here would still be the same the next time you drop by again," Uy says.

Aside from standard American and Pinoy favorites, such as Hainanese, coffee caramel, among others, Yaya also offers "limited edition" of Filipino recipes like baked pancit canton.

Fare

"Not any food costly in doing finest cuisine! Skewers-style cakes, even before I studied in culinary schools abroad," says the 25-year-old chef.

Uy says the correct imagine herself doing another job aside from cooking. For her, cooking is her life and Yaya, her baby.

The square, green-walled coffee shop with its green-painted shelves where cakes and other products are put on display, is a "stay for place" where people can relax, says Rainelda Jimenez as mouth with the cake in press.

The chairs are also painted green.

She says the place's name Yaya, was also on the nickname of its owner as her parents to her cousins. Calling daughters of Compostela Valley Governor Uy.

"Yaya also sounds like Tagalog which really means to tasty food," explains Jimenez.

Despite the upcoming of Web-ready coffee shops throughout the city, Jimenez observes that many Tagum residents were not ready yet to the concept of all-coffee and cakes establishments.

Complete package

"We are decided to innovate. Aside from cakes and coffee, we also serve dining fares like soups, salads and main dishes. We want to project Yaya as a complete package. A coffee shop and fast food joint rolled into one," she says.

A serving of a famous chocolate muffin cake only P38 while a skewers-style cake is for P48 apiece.

Dishes like beef and mushroom stroganoff is at P76 for serving. Their salads' prices range from P75 to P140, with pasta and chicken with salad among the most sought-after by Yaya customers.

They also serve fried and barbecued chicken and even chicken inasal, priced up to P138 per helping.

And how does she see Yaya in the next two years? Jimenez says there could be expansion to another urban centers, but she would not sell the shop's name or go into franchising just yet.

Diverse combos and other local delicacies sold at Yaya

From Island Souvenirs to no frills hotels

From page B3

Islands Day Hotels rooms are categorized as small, medium, large and mega large.

For its updates, Cebu branch the rates are P950 for small; P1,450 for medium; P1,950 for large and P2,250 for mega large.

For its Mactan branch, the room rates are P650 (starting September) for small; a promotion rate of P950 for large for one person and additional P400 and P800 for each succeeding extra person and P1,600 for large.

Filling the gaps

The small and medium rooms are good for one person only. Large and extra large rooms are good for two people only. Extra persons will be charged P500 upon check-in.

Islands Souvenir says having seven outlets, including standalone stores, department stores and those run by distributors, spread all over the Philippines.

While it has become a success, Abiguar has found himself deeper in the tourism industry seeing gaps, especially in tourism services, that should be addressed. He considers the gaps as business opportunities and must be filled in the Philippines can become a premier destination in the Asia-Pacific region.

Islands & More

In 2006, Abiguar established Islands & More, a retail business catering to tourists and with shops located centrally and airport terminals. The concept revolves around a one-stop, travel essentials store offering products under the high handbags common in hotels and resorts.

Islands & More now has 12 stores and three franchise stores—Baguio City City of Vigan in Ilocos Sur and Tuguegarao Ilua.

Two years later, he invested in Islands Beach Cruiser (IBC), which addresses the questions of what else to do in Cebu aside from going to the beach or an historical tours. He initial capital was at P5 million, while his total investment has reached P8 million.

Just like Islands Souvenirs, IBC helped on the standards for boats offering island hopping tours. Other issues had been considered such as safety issues are there were not being regulated by the government.

During peak season, IBC and its fleet of 12 boats could not accommodate all their clients, so the company decided to create joint arrangements with other boat owners.

"It's the three boats, have our own crew most times. During the peak season, we outsource eight to 10 boats," Abiguar says. The boat owners get a share of the revenues.

IBC has become successful that other businesses offering similar services have emerged. Abiguar now wants IBC to be replicated in other areas, such as Boracay and Bohol. "We are looking for strategic partners," he says.

Market needs

Just recently, IBC signed a franchise agreement in Batangas with Sea Transportcorp of Cebu by Dr. Abiguar reveals.

Apart from island hopping, the company will be offering another product—a romantic cruise of the Cebu-Mactan channel.

The unstoppable Abiguar has set out his sights on another tourism-related business. Subic Adventure and Watersports, in Grigo Island in Luzon Luzon City.

"I wanted to develop a new destination in Cebu," he says. He plans for investment to Tallena at P8 million to P10 million.

The place features a great island-hopping ride, water trampolines and water rollers. A private part of the P100 entrance fee per visitor is donated to the Tabon Marine Sanctuary.

Tallena had projected a turnout of 150 people on a weekday to the island to have a demo-500. And weather, though, had lowered the cancellation of trips to things.

For those interested in going into a tourism-related business, Abiguar shares this advice: "Here is the good time to go into business because we are in the crossroads, where there are so many new demands and needs in travel. Whoever recognizes that will be in good company."

MTRS prepare for the Lol-Le Cabibi Fest

CABIBI FESTIVAL

Fiesta as an economic activity

Text and photos
by Arnado Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

THE BARANGAY town of Lol-le, Guyam... north of the capital city of Tagaytay on Batch is itself 480 kilometers north of Manila)...is using its coconut to its full glory. It was, after all, during these days on important religious and political events in the Cagayan Valley.

One way to achieve this is through entrepreneurship, economic development, and tourism. An economic zone is in the planning stage, while an international airport is being considered. It will be completed in one and a half years, says Provincial Board Member Silvestre Pascual, only if Lol-le Mayor Theresita C. Pascual.

The provincial board member is himself a native of the town, and it was during her term that Lol-le became a first class municipality.

The edible (shells and shellfish) are a major agro-industrial activity in the town, which is along the Cagayan River, said to be one of the largest in the world. These big freshwater deposit for these livelihood on the cabibi, which can be found in abundance year-round except during certain months when the current is strong.

The shells and shellfish cost P60-100 per kilogram here, with the next supply moderate to Manila.

There is also a 1.5 km Cabibi Sanctuary in the Cagayan River, and some of the fisherfolk are hoping that the delta of the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea).

The local government officials take steps of gathering the cabibi without damaging the shells. This is done, ostensibly, through diving (children are forbidden to dive) or through the use of the cabibi, a bamboo instrument which functions like a rake. Only the big shells are caught, the smaller ones left for another day.

The importance of the cabibi has led to the annual Cabibi Festival, week-long festivities climaxed by dance competitions in front of the Municipal Hall. The most recent such festival was staged early this month (August).

Clusters of ornate, upraised in shell-inspired costumes and backed up by ensemble production designs, danced in lively formation, demonstrated how to gather shells, and paid tribute to shell craft and to Our Lady ("Ina Maria").

They stood the test for the last five independent Agfao, with their bodies and expressions, to operate and — how said sincere, courtship and was dreams, while a successful increase of their appeals. Fertilized, devout bearing, protection of their ancestral lands, and other urgent concerns.

"We want to attract investors and tourism is the premier selling point of the town," says Municipal Budget Officer Lualhati Cobongan. "For this year, our budget for the Cabibi Festival is P1.5 million. We declare the budget; we adhere to auditing procedures."

Tourism-oriented cabibi-ness, he says, suppose the festival because they know that leads to increased sales.

"We all do it in economic terms because tourism is a driver for our entry," Cobongan concludes.

We want to attract investors and tourism is the premier selling point of the town

CHOICE GRAPHY on carving shells and shellfish

FOUTHS carry images of shellfish and the sea

Bank of Commerce

In the Photo are (L to R): John Jimenez (IR Worldwide Assembly Controller), Eric Tandoc (IR OSAT Capacity and Cost Mgr), Irene Reyes (ATEC Customer Service Director), Danny Acuna (ATEC President and GM), Tak-Kei Chan (IR VP-GM Assembly Operations), Wes Manners (IR VP Outsource Assembly and Test), and Cecilio Arejola (IR Executive Assistant)

In the Photo are (L to R): John Jimenez (IR Worldwide Assembly Controller), Eric Tandoc (IR OSAT Capacity and Cost Mgr), Irene Reyes (ATEC Customer Service Director), Danny Acuna (ATEC President and GM), Tak-Kei Chan (IR VP-GM Assembly Operations)

Coop launches golden anniversary book

TELEBOD Pioneers moved to Pantabangan in 1970 in search of a better life. Armed with only a high school diploma, he found work in a valley dotted of a dangerous clean until his retirement in 1999.

To augment his income during those years, Fausto and his wife Lilia also put up a tricycle business from a rented loan thereof amounted to members of San Dionisio Credit Cooperative (SDCC).

For over 20 years through the cooperative's lending program, the couple invested in more than 100 motorcycles, sent their children to school and live a comfortable life, but also transformed the lives of their tricycle drivers. After five years, Fausto would transfer ownership of the units to his drivers, making them cooperators themselves.

Fausto's case of more than 13,000 members of SDCC today, shared his rags-to-riches story in the cooperative's 140-page commemorative book, "Will to Serve: The Story of San Dionisio Credit Cooperative." Formally launched on July 26 during the cooperative's golden anniversary gala night at Intercontinental.

This year, San Dionisio Credit Cooperative, the country's first organized community-based credit cooperative, celebrates its fifth year of serving the people of Pantabangan City recognizing its 26 pioneers who formed a credit union out of their "collective faith, perseverance and commitment to empowering a community through the ideals of cooperativism."

Among its golden anniversary initiatives, "Will to Serve" is an exhaustive human interest story that recognizes the struggles, and the sacrifices of men and women who strongly believed in cooperatives as a way of life.

Written by Sonny Villanueva, former director for Southeast Asia of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), Will to Serve chronicles the development and growth of SDCC whose belief in "people over money" and committed adherence to the cooperative values have helped transform thousands of lives and created a stronger sense of community, now fit to cooperativism in July 28, 1961.

"The arrival of the book was clear—to present the historical context of SDCC with focus on people and values and how such values had shaped the organization and guided its business operations. This is the first and continuing part, the book points to the bottom line—how to measure success, and this is by asking the question of what kind of impact the cooperative has made on the quality of life of its members and the community it serves," said Dr. Caridad D. Maniti.

Formed on July 28, 1961 through the support of the Catholic Church's Institute of Social Order (ISO), San Dionisio Credit Cooperative was initially made up by 26 members, mostly native Bicols from Ambos, as a "project of solution to alleviate poverty" in what was then Barrio San Dionisio in Pantabangan. The Cooperative Administration Office (CAO) has surveyed the region and found San Dionisio Cooperative Credit Union, Inc. (SDCCUI) on September 8, 1961.

Through the past 50 years, SDCC has been guided by its ultimate goal of "full human development" as a business whose main purpose is to make profit" but to serve its members in all aspects of their lives.

To illustrate the cooperative values of transparency and honesty in governance at SDCC, the late nationalist and statesman Senator Jose W. Diokno declared in his speech at SDCC's pioneering assembly in 1974: "If the people who can run government are like the run-up leaders of San Dionisio, we will have no problem of graft and corruption in the country."

As required of various nationalizing cooperative awards, SDCC runs a pharmacy and a pension and secondary school, provides skills training, and underwrites regular seminars and modules as a vision for its members on top of offering low interest loans and a wide range of financial services.

International Rectifier recently presented Automotive Technology Philippines Inc. two awards for being the SUPPLIER of the Year for FY2011 (top) plaque and TOP SUPPLIER for the Quarter for QMPY11 (bottom plaque). These two awards were presented by Tak-Kei Chan (IR VP-GM Assembly Operations) and Wes Manners (IR VP Outsource Assembly and Test) to Danny Acuna (ATEC President and GM), on August 15, 2011 at Hilton Hotel, Singapore.

International Rectifier (NYSE:IRF) is a pioneer and world leader in advanced power management technology, with headquarters in Temecula, CA USA. IR's analog and mixed signal ICs, advanced circuit devices, integrated power systems and components enable high performance computing and solution energy needs from notebooks, leading manufacturers of computers, energy efficient appliances, lighting, automobiles, satellites, aircraft and defense systems rely on IR's power management technologies to power their next generation products. For more information, please visit www.irf.com.

Automotive Technology Phil. Inc. (ATEC) is a provider of total assembly semiconductor assembly and test services, ranging from discrete to complex multichip packages, from low volume, quick turns to high volume production. Driven by their vision of being a strategic partner to their customers, ATEC is offering a consistently first-rate and dynamic range of technical capabilities and the Captive Line option. ATEC's products and customer base have been in a wide array of applications, including voice and data communication, technical, commercial, consumer and office electronics, computers, military, automotive, medical and many other industries. For more information, please visit www.atecphil.com.

Sunday BIZ

Western food thrives in a Tagum corner

Text and photos by Primavera L. Lim
Inquirer Mindanao

TAGUM CITY—Tucked away in this city's main artery is a little café, where one can munch on freshly baked Western-style cakes and sip good Italian coffee at affordable prices.

Bonbon and well-kept, Yuyu Café and Dessert Shop, which sits along the Davao-Butuan segment of the Pan-Philippine highway, adds to the growing number of coffee joints mushrooming here.

What sets it aside from the others, its owner says, is that people get their taste of Italian-inspired salads, American cakes and even local desserts' artfulness she need to go to Davao City.

"We are offering the average Tagum resident a chance to taste American and other Western cakes they only used to see in Davao City cafés. So we attempt not to let our prices be affordable," says Emerald Uy, the woman behind Yuyu.

A graduate of Tze-Culinary Institute of America in New York, the 23-year-old Uy somehow evoking in her life. Her experiences as well as her formal schooling shaped her passion in setting up an American-inspired coffee shop.

Uy says the idea of venturing into coffee shop business first crossed her mind when she was still completing her baking and pastry diploma at Ai-Ainstitut Globalchef Academy in Singapore two years ago.

She saw an opportunity when the local anchor of a listed by-based coffee shop operated by a relative on the same spot that Yuyu now occupies closed shop.

"I really like its location, so strategic that when the place became vacant, I quickly rented it," says Uy.

Drawing her savings of about a million pesos, Emerald started Yuyu in July last year. She hired two assistants from a cooking school, a chef and an accountant. Being an upstart, she had to make sure everything was

YUCKED away in this city's main artery is the little café with good Italian coffee.

FRESHLY baked Western-style cakes.

TWENTY-THREE-YEAR-OLD Emerald Uy, the lady behind Yuyu.

"lean and mean, including the workforce."

"Though we have a chef, I always get myself involved in the shop's day-to-day operations, from concepts and formulation of the cakes and pastries to the buying of ingredients," she says.

Quality

Emerald considers product quality as the main asset of her shop and she always sees to it that only high-quality ingredients are used and utmost care in the preparation of the cakes and pastries observed. She says the greatest value she has learned in attending school is striving for excellence.

"Cooking and food preparation is never easy. But when people like what you prepare for them, and they would want more of it, that's the greatest accomplishment you can get as a cook," Uy says.

The youngest of the three children of Tagum City Mayor Rey Uy and wife Alma, a registered nurse, Emerald or Ali to her family and friends considers herself the "least exposed" of the Uy blood.

Her elder sister Gina is occasionally seen with the Uy couple in official functions while her sister Dr. Carlos is a politician like their father, being a city councilor.

She says her cooking ability has always been in the blood. Relatives from both sides cook, so it's not pareto.

"I was really set loose in the kitchen," she tells the Inquirer in Lithuanian, with a chuckle.

During elementary years, she says that she used to observe her mother and their house help prepare meals. She also started learning recipes from a cook book her mother had given her.

Being born in a family of business people, Emerald says it really helped her in learning the ropes in resorts as well as industry techniques.

She dives poring up advertisements on radio or newspapers, and instead relies on Facebook and "text brigades," and even the proverbial "word of mouth." So far, building business entity like hers, Emerald says spending on promotions is not a sound option, with cash too valuable.

Patrons and new customers are assured of tasty cakes and pastries. Desserts as suggestions were diligently sought out from an Inquirer Metro Manila.

WESTERN SU

THE BUSINESS OF SURVIVING... DOOM

The guests were introduced to several practical methods in preparing businesses for disaster.

ALPHA BITES KICKS OFF WITH AN EYE-OPENER ON BUSINESS DISASTER SURVIVAL

The members of the panel: Rick Lowe, moderator (center), and (L to R) the addressed the audience's questions

FLUT ALPHA Enterprises commits to building bigger and stronger relationships with businesses across industries through the ALPHA Banks and ALPHA Bites series. For more information on their next installments, call 89-ALPHA.

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Sunday BIZ

US-based exec back home to take Ortigas to new level

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE OPPORTUNITY to take a billion-peso company public does not come up every day.

That is why when Russell L. Reviere was offered the chance last year to become chief operating officer of Ortigas and Co...now OCLP Holdings Inc.—he packed up his bags in the United States and came back home five years ahead of his self-imposed schedule.

Reviere tells Inquirer that while he was happy working and living in the United States with his family, he did not really envision retiring in a foreign land. Coming home to the Philippines for good and leaving behind a fruitful and fulfilling corporate career have always been part of the grand plan, he says.

LEARNED B2

RUSSELL Reviere, president and CEO of OCLP Holdings Inc.

M2M SOLUTIONS™
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DON'T LET YOUR BUSINESS MELT AWAY.

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To find out more, contact your Account Manager or visit us at www.globe.com.ph/business.

Globe Business

Vintage World War II Jeep gets an electric twin

THE VINTAGE World War 2 jeep is not going to get a facelift. Instead, it gets electrified and will get a twin, an electrically-powered sibling. The twin of the PhilJet MB will be powered by a 6-kilowatt, 48-volt electric motor, declaring all its energy from eight more 6-volt batteries. Fifteen charged overnight for about eight hours, is run for

BELOVED vehicle gets a new power source

around the start day for from 50 km up to 100 km, depending on the road terrain and the number of passengers.

MO Juan Enterprises, the private manufacturer of replacement Jeep bodies and parts in the country and in the world, collaborated with PhilJet Inc., the pioneer in electric vehicle assembly in the country to develop the electric MB jeep.

Rommel Juan, VP for Sales and Marketing of MO Juan, explains that the MBJet MB is what is more popularly known in the Philippines as the MacArthur jeep. "Filipinos refer to it as the granddaddy of all jeeps and it is considered as the forerunner of the Pinoy MJSs and SUVs. Encompassing 592 Filipinos have conveyed the MBJet MB into a rear-entry, center-facing

Electric Jeep marries old and the new technologies

passenger jeep that known as the auto cabrio. When the size and the capacity of the auto cabrio increased, it evolved into what we now know as the public utility jeepney or the PUJ. This is now the backbone of the Philippine mass transport system", he adds.

The electric jeepney or eJeepney on the other hand was introduced into the country in 2007 by the Institute of Climate and Sustainable Cities (ICSC), an NGO whose advocacy was environmental protection. Juan says the ICSC initially imported the eJeepney CB1 from China. "However, they realized that the jeepney is a Pinoy icon and therefore was better produced by Filipinos for Filipinos. That was why they commissioned PhilJet Inc. to develop and localize assemble the eJeepney. PhilJet Inc. then asked MO Juan to build the body", Juan enumerates.

Today, eJeepneys ply three loops in the Makati Green Fleet initiated by then Makati City Mayor and now Vice President Jejomar Binay. "It is the very first mass transport application of electric vehicles in the country. It gave the Isuzu IN industry a shot in the arm and the experience in various aspects of after-sales service", says Juan.

MO Juan and PhilJet Inc. have now successfully married the old and the new in an electric MB jeep. This electric MB will be showcased at the forthcoming Philippine Die and Mould Association exhibit at the World Trade Center from Aug. 17 to 20, 2011. The body of the electric MB was made using locally-made dies and models and manufactured in MO Juan's stamping plant.

Juan said that the electric MB is a perfect example of a vehicle that is truly green. "It is literally green in its body color in other details. It is figuratively green and is environment friendly. No engine, no exhaust pipes, no gas tank, no smoke, no harmful exhaust fumes, no noise. How much more green can you get?" asked Juan.

Juan concludes that some 3,340 grams of CO2 and 16 grams of NOx per liter of diesel are dumped into the air by smoke-belching, carbon-emitting vehicles. "There is a need for more fuel-efficient, eco-friendly, clean and green modes of transport. The EV is the answer. MO Juan recognizes this and has thus taken the initiative to develop and locally assemble its own versions of the green vehicle, the electric MB".

Mall shares lessons on going 'green'

By Emmari Cura

NOT A few people know about SM Malls' initiative of tackling the road to green and sustainability. Yes, friendly SM Green bags have been commonplace. SM Green Festival especially draws moviegoers into its suite of "green" demonstrations, and then there were series of lectures on environmental awareness and protection in what they call the "Green Retail Agenda."

In line with the mall-wide agenda of enhancing awareness, tenants and employees, SM Sta. Mesa in Manila recently held Tuesday to venture of the Green Retail Agenda under the theme "Empowerment by sustainability."

The mall hopes to foster awareness that its retail agenda can also be a venue for community development and to bring environmental awareness to public consciousness.

"The change is toward sustainability," says engineer Mark Louie Sta. Ana, SM Sta. Mesa mall manager, in his speech. He mentions that no choice composed mostly of residents from nearby colleges such as the UERMMC College of Medicine, the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, San Beda College and the wide high school neighborhood from the Freedom International School.

Bacolod-based NGO Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation Inc (AIDF) was flown in to address the conference and share its projects which have bagged the BIC World Challenge awards.

Called the hydraulic ram pump project, this water system supplies drinking water to remote villages in Negros Occidental and other parts of the country. One of its youngest units is what it at first

MALL manager Mark Louie Sta. Ana welcomes the audience to the green retail agenda

used the water flow from 50 lids up to 100 lids, depending on the road terrain and the number of passengers.

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JPMorgan Chase employees work to make a difference

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY starts from itself in a number of different ways. JPMorgan Chase, one of the world's largest and most influential global financial institutions, corporate responsibility continues to evolve.

While it gives more than $200 million yearly through grants and sponsorships to thousands of nonprofit organizations around the world, philanthropic goal remains simple. It strives to be a catalyst for meaningful, positive and sustainable impact in communities that it supports.

As it does in other communities around the world, JPMorgan Chase is doing its part in the Philippines.

Since 2009, the company has been committed to doing good works in targeted communities, partnering with community-based organizations for community development, education and arts and culture initiatives.

Its social investment in the country's targets young, promising literacy programs by underprivileged children, to improving health and nutrition habits in children and adults, and training local non-profits to become entrepreneurs.

The company is a founding donor to The Global Fund for Children, a private grants foundation to improve the public school system by providing teacher training programs under the Center for Excellence in Public Elementary Education (CENTEE) schools.

At present, some 500 children are benefitting from the JPMorgan Chase community development program in Bacolod, Manila by providing these children access to education, health and nutrition as well as livelihood projects for the families in partnership with World Vision Development Foundation.

In the same community, the company has also partnered with 100-DB Bacolod Academy for Young Talents, a social responsibility education program that includes training programs for grassroots entrepreneurship management.

What makes the charitable works of JPMorgan Chase Philippines special is its drive toward employee volunteerism. More than 11,000 JPMorgan Chase staff have volunteered their time and skills to make a meaningful impact in the communities in which they live and work.

This year, JPMorgan Chase will roll out a new global employee volunteer program in the Philippines, which allows employees to create a personal volunteer fit online and initiate his or her particular interest area for community service.

"The employees are an integral part of JPMorgan Chase's initiatives to give back to the communities it serves. By volunteering their time and skills for community service opportunities of their choice, the company is able to invest its global charity funds in support programs and partners effectively through the best matching program," said Roberto L. Ongpin, JPMorgan Chase Philippine senior country officer.

JPMorgan Chase is indeed committed to make an impact in the countries where it operates. Its employees' participation is all about what the company and its people do every day in its businesses and how they do it. They expand the business impact through charitable contributions and employee engagement.

"As a leading global financial services firm, with operations in the Philippines, our volunteerism initiatives underscore our responsibility to be more than enough reason for many Filipinos to want to work with us," Ongpin added.

These investments and partnerships, as well as the mobilization of its employees volunteers, enable JPMorgan Chase Philippines to increase its positive influence on children, families and communities in the country.

US-based exec back home to take Ortigas to new level

From page B2-1

The 53-year-old real estate veteran just did not count on coming home this early.

The challenge to take the Ortigas group to the next level, however, proved too good to resist.

"Not too many people will have this opportunity. It is a chance that is not available to somebody," says Jurado, who was involved in the redevelopment of the Ayala Center and Alabang Town Center, the development of Ayala Center in Cebu and the setup of the property businesses in the United States during his long years with the Ayala group.

It has been almost a year since the Industrial Engineering and Chemical Engineering graduate of De La Salle University took on her October 2010 as the top dog of OGCP Holdings, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. And he has no regrets.

On the contrary, Bautista considers himself very fortunate to have been reindoctrinated recently to lead a company known to be among the pioneers to large-scale, integrated and mixed-use real estate development.

Ortigas developed some of the country's landmark real estate projects, including the Ortigas Central Business District, Greenhills Shopping Center, Tropicana, Frontera Verde, Valle Verde Subdivisions, Greenmeadows and Greenhills subdivisions.

Soon to be added to the list is the Circuit Pride mixed use development in Quezon City.

Most Reverend Jose De Antonio Jr. said his own chapter in the Ortigas group's long history by finally taking the company public, hopefully by the end of next year.

Business pundits find there will be a healthy demand for OGCP shares once they are offered in the public through an initial public offering because of the company's huge land bank and enviable track record for developing real property assets by right way.

He says the group's reputation for quality development should keep its bottom line healthy despite the significant increase in competition from both the veterans of the real estate scene and the new kids on the block.

"Not enough people are aware that we have a very valuable asset base. And we still have a substantial land bank and assets that can monetize us through the long term. We don't even have to buy land now. My latest count (last) through real estate investments for the next 10 years, maybe even the next 15," says Bautista, who has a master's in Business Administration from the Asian Institute of Management.

GREENHILLS Shopping Center was the first shopping center constructed by the Ortigas group. It was later followed by Tiendesitas at Pasig in Pasig.

LUNETA Valle Verde is a townhouse community developed in 2001.

Bautista says that by going public, more Filipinos will be able to benefit from the Ortigas group's growth, and the proceeds will help accelerate the development of real estate projects in the Ortigas group's pipeline.

While other real estate companies are summering into areas outside their core expertise, he says Ortigas will likely stay within its preferred radius where it dominates and for which it is known.

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"Ortigas' strategy has been different from the start, because we have been a boutique developer and have focused on our niche. Our developments are mostly high-end retail and real estate, and I believe we have been—and will continue to be—a leader in that niche," says Bautista.

With 30 years in the helm, combining management skills honed in the Philippines and abroad, there is no reason to believe that this will change anytime soon.

Money grows from tree farming

Text and photos by Yolanda Bantin
Inquirer Northern Luzon

ENRILE, Pangasinan—While many are wishing heaven's rain that grows money, a family in this town is growing thousands of trees that will hopefully not only bring them money but also help preserve the environment.

Money, indeed, does not grow on trees. But the Sebastian family, who owns Marvex Tropical Timber Plantation, knows it takes years, hard work and caring before their trees could be sold and become money.

Their plantation began as a hobby in the early '90s when tree planting became popular in the country.

Mario Sebastian Sr., 63, a businessman engaged in dealing agricultural chemicals, wanted to plant mahogany seeds in his backyard in Urdaneta City. The seeds were collected by his eldest son, Mario Jr., from forests in Manila Technical (MAC) where he was studying high school, and from the nearby University of the Philippines campus in Diliman, Quezon City.

"We were able to plant those seeds of mahogany seedlings that the pathway was the only space available in the 2,000-square-meter yard. My father then decided to look for a property to start the plantation," Mario Jr. says.

Plantation sites

The elder Sebastian counted his properties in 1992 and found some open lots, covering 28 hectares, in remote Barangay Inic-Inic in remote Barangay Inic-Inic. These lots sold for only P1 a square meter. The place was devoid of vegetation, except tall cogon grasses.

Sebastian bought another 40 hectares property in nearby Barangay Lucsa. He had to get a P20-million loan from Quedancor Bank to start the plantation.

Twenty years later, the plantation is one of the most sustainable tree farms in the country. Thousands of mahogany trees that the family planted stand tall and stately, but it took take five to 10 more years before they mature, and another 10 years before they reach full commercial potential, Mario Jr. says.

Sebastian passed on to his children his love for trees.

Mario Jr. says it must be those years of collecting the mahogany seeds and helping their father plant them in bags that he grew passionately in love with tree farming.

The Sebastian siblings are graduates from MBM. The eldest, Mario Jr., 36, finished BS Management; Mavis Angela, 34, BS Management Engineering, while the youngest, Marvin, 24, Environmental Science.

Family endeavor

With their educational background, the three could easily land good-paying jobs in multinational companies, but they opted to focus their efforts on the family's seedling plantation.

When the Inquirer visited the plantation, Mario Jr. and Marvin were in shirts, jeans, boots and their hands muddied.

"We have just finished a composting and formulated the organic solution," Mario Jr., the president and chief executive officer, says. Marvin is the chief operations officer while Maria Angela is the marketing officer.

The brothers are hands-on in managing the plantation, getting their hands dirty by working alongside their workers (tiga-).

"Whatever the workers are doing, we also do," says Mario Jr.

They have no formal training in tree farming.

"We learn through experiences and by consulting foresters and government agencies, and by researching with the help of the Internet. The first 20 ha plantation was really trial-and-error," Mario Jr. says.

"Everything here passed through our hands—from selecting and sowing the seeds, planting them in bags, replanting and taking care of them," he adds.

Whatever lessons they learned in the farm, they practice in the Lima plantation where they take care of wide mahogany but also teak and gmelina, and native trees, like narra and kamagong.

Export market

Mario Jr. says they planted Honduran mahogany and teak because these species are most marketable abroad. The plan is for the timber to be sold in foreign markets where they can fetch higher prices.

The bigger plan is also to have a wood processing plant which can cater to other plantations in the area. The family is looking for a partner for a joint venture.

"We are encouraging our tenants-farmers to plant trees which they can sell to us. That way they do not have to sell their land to they can earn money from tree farming. Many residents have actually started planting and all lessons have come to their yards," Mario Jr. says.

According to the Sebastians, they educate on help from relatives and friends who "paid for the trees which they will harvest years from now."

"It is like they gave the trees and we take care of the trees for them," Mario Jr. says.

The plantation brings income to the family through several means.

Due to where they cut down the trees which are not of quality, such as those that are unusual, bent or are sick. These are sold or taken to a sawmill for sawing. The plantation has a small sawmill that they use to make furniture and small wooden items.

Saplings for sale

"We also sell the seedlings. Saplings growing in the wild—from P2 to P6, depending on their sizes. Those interested could come and gather the seedlings and pay for what they get. We don't really count, we believe in honesty," Mario Jr. says.

Another source of income is selling twigs and branches as firewood for P16 a bundle. These are sold for P2B in nearby town markets.

The Sebastians also conduct on-site tree farming seminars during weekends for a fee of P8,000 to P10,000 per person per day, inclusive of meals.

"We teach them how to plan plantations, how to care for trees, everything that is needed to know about tree farming, based on our experience," Marvin says.

But the biggest satisfaction that the family gets from tree farming is their being able to help nurture the environment.

When they started the farm, the land was almost arid, but now the water table seems to have gone near the surface and springs have sprouted in several areas.

The air is also cooler in the area even during summer, the Sebastians say. Birds and wildlife have also been seen there.

After the plantation's life span, Mario Jr. says 10 percent of the original trees will be left. But there will never be empty spaces because the trees will regenerate on their own, he says.

MARIO Sebastian Jr. and Provincial Environment and Management Office-Enrile Lorenzo Co walk through mahogany logs.

MARIO Sebastian Sr. says the tree farm started as a hobby.

BROTHERS Mario Jr. and Marvin Sebastian are involved in the day-to-day operations of the family-owned tree farm.

A MINI sawmill which the Sebastians use to make furniture.

PH energy sector seen fueling Siemens' local growth

By Amy R. Remo

SIEMENS PHILIPPINES INC. is primed for an "exponential growth" over the next five to 10 years, as it targets to grab the lion's share of the local power generation, transmission and distribution project currently on the pipeline.

The local unit of the Germany-based Siemens AG expects to ride on the renewed investor confidence on the Aquino administration, which is now offering hefty investment opportunities across all sectors.

The energy sector alone needs a staggering P1.03 trillion in new investments within a 20-year period from 2010 to 2030 to double up not only the country's installed and renewable energy sources, but to boost other critical sectors as well.

Axel Siemens Philippines, as a technology provider, is now looking to play a major role in supporting and in providing power portfolio solutions to the country, with its wide range of products in the whole energy conversion chain—from generation, transmission to distribution of power, all the way down to the end users, noted Joseph Noda, senior vice president and head of the energy sector at Siemens Philippines.

In an exclusive interview with Inquirer's Sundaybiz, Noda explains that as it is, the company already targets as much as a 20 to 30 percent year-on-year growth from its "brand and barrier" businesses, which included the upgrading and maintenance services for existing power generation and transmission facilities in the country, among others.

It should all the indicative power projects renewables within the next 20 year period, Siemens Philippines is confident of even further surpassing those growth targets.

Emmanuel C. Lamsen, Siemens vice president for energy, admits that the renewable energy sector will be a "significant market" for the company over the short- and medium-term. As such, Siemens officials further lauded the government's initiative to grow by three-fold the existing renewable energy capacity to over 15,000 megawatts from the current 5,000MW.

Estimates from the Department of Energy showed there to be a difference of seven-fold investments being poured in the renewable energy sector over the next 20 years. These investments will see the construction of renewable energy facilities harnessing either biomass, solar, hydro, wind or geothermal, which can generate a combined 9,864.3 megawatts by 2030.

Although a number of the proposed renewable energy projects are still indicative and some, on hold due to the delay in the issuance of the feed-in tariff rate, Siemens is already in negotiations with several developers, including for three wind farm projects. In one of these projects, Siemens has already been decided on the "preferred turbines," Lamsen further disclosed.

Noda further adds that even the orders for technologies using the traditional fossil-based fuels such as coal remained robust.

"Despite the clamor for renewable energy, we still can't cross the fact that other developers would prefer and because of its price competitiveness and bankable nature," he says.

Siemens' current backlog for power generation projects alone is at P30 billion, while those for transmission and distribution projects are still looking into smart turbine projections, wherein Siemens has potential there," Noda explains.

Apart from energy, Siemens Philippines also expects to obtain business segments to help shore up the company's market share, including in industry and healthcare.

More specifically, Siemens officials note that they can also provide customers with a broad range of the latest green technologies for infrastructure and cities, manufacturing, water and wastewater, solar developments, sustainable energy efficiency solutions, electric mobility and smart grid, among others.

Siemens has been in the Philippines for more than a hundred years, holding leading positions in the energy, healthcare and industry sectors. During fiscal year 2010 (October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010), sales in the country reached 161 million euros or some P9.134 billion, while new orders reached 661 million euros or some P41.244 billion. Siemens currently has 360 employees in the country.

Meat and fish processing seminar set

LEGAZPI to promote meat and fish as the easy way for household and also for business. The Dalikot Treasure Chefs and Cooking Instruction Program will conduct a one-day seminar on meat and fish processing to be held at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia Complex, Pasay City on Sept. 3, formerly from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Participants will get to experience how to make kebab, meatloaf, longganisa (chicken, vegan, lechon) bacon, Chinese sausage, embutido, adobo, chicken and pork ham, pork specialties, fish ball, fish fillet, spanish and tomato sardine, pork and bangus sisig, squid ball, corned beef. There will be a bonus course on how to make vegetable preserved (achara) from papaya, singalong, cucuci, saycot, etc. and how to make peanut butter will also be included in the seminar aside from an actual demo on banga deboning.

Participants will receive a certificate of training right after the seminar. There will be a

Mining firm commits to planting 5M trees in Palawan

CITYBUILDS, Nikara and Development Corp., a nickel mining company with two projects in the municipalities of Sofronio Española and Narra in the province of Palawan, has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Provincial Government of Palawan, committing a donation of five million seedlings to Palawan over 25 years (2011 to 2036).

While Palawan remains to be the province to host the highest forest cover in the country, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) reports that the province has lost a huge tract of forest area due to "agricultural and residential land use, fishpond development, and the release of Certificates of Land Ownership Award under the government's agrarian reform program."

PCSD also names other causes such as timber poaching for wood and lumber, mangrove destruction, charcoal making, and forest fires.

In the hopes of restoring the province's forest resources for the future, and reverse the trend of forest lost, PCSD passed resolution 11-4116 "Adopting a Public-Private Partnership for the Province-wide Implementation of the Trees for Life Program in the Province of Palawan" in March, 2011.

Dubbed as TnTROES for short, this province-wide program also complements President Aquino's Executive Order No. 23, declaring the implementation of the National Greening Programs as a government priority program to reduce poverty, promote food security, conserve natural stability and biodiversity preservation, and enhance climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The National Greening Program, as implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources specifically seeks to plant 1.5 billion seedlings in 1.5 million hectares of public lands nationwide in six years, from 2011 to 2016.

Citinickel Mines and Development Corp. thus leads the private sector of Palawan in heeding the call for participation in this greening program.

"As a company that completely adheres to the principles of responsible mining, Citinickel chooses to implement its own to positively contribute to the restoration of ecological, economic, and social spheres of the province," said Caroline L. Tinsley, chair of Citinickel Mines and Development Corp.

Citinickel has already been embarking on massive tree planting, reforestation, and crop planting on its properties located in the Palawan, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program.

Sunday BIZ

MANILA Hotel's updated website

Hotel's new website fuses old and new

By Charles S. Baker

NDCT's nine-year-old Manila Hotel proves it's never too late to get updated with the latest Web design trends.

Shunning subtle hints on a design concept akin to its current (seriously [un]outdated) decorative design), the new website—www.manila-hotel.com.ph—allows users to experience Parker Brothers convenience of booking and checking accommodation details of available rooms while all the same time make guest browsers feel nostalgic and connected with the past.

"Our main goal in relaunching our website is to further enhance our connection with our clients. With the improved interface and up-to-date information, they can now have a feel of the Manila Hotel experience even before they get to the hotel," explains Manila Hotel AVP for PR and Corporate Communications Mina Lorenzo Rigor.

With just a few mouse clicks, a guest would be able to get instant access to what is currently happening at the hotel from special packages and promotions to exciting events and feature stories.

There are shortcuts to the hotel's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Transformations

The redesigned website, according to Rigor, is just one of the transformations happening at the hotel that currently include many modern conveniences while striving to maintain its historical atmosphere.

Aside from the regularly updated information, the website also provides a comprehensive guide on enjoying staycations and local trade in the Metro and nearby areas.

Rigor informs that in the Photo Gallery online guests may now be able to view the hotel's newly renovated suite and facilities. The slideshow contains on-the-wall artwork, provides a brief history of Manila Hotel since its inception in 1912.

It also includes a timeline of monumental events complemented with rare postcard photos of the hotel.

"While maintaining the elegance of the past, Manila Hotel will continue to evolve and strives to outdo what it has already accomplished. To date, Manila Hotel is a national landmark that remains to be an active and effective witness to Philippine history," says Rigor.

> "Manila Hotel will continue to evolve and strives to outdo what it has already accomplished"

Globe Business expands suite of Machine-to-Machine solutions for enterprises

Globe Telecom, one of the leading telecommunications providers in the Philippines, delivers more innovative ICT solutions for enterprises with the recent expansion of its Machine-to-Machine (M2M) services. Offered through its Globe Business unit, the company, who is the first local telco to bring M2M services in the country, is now providing more M2M solutions that can help customers from various industries to take better control of their businesses.

With M2M, enterprises can more effectively oversee their fixed or moving resources by making their business machines communicate directly with each other. It streamlines the monitoring process, minimizing savings and realizing operational costs. Further, the service allows them to experience real-time information exchange with minimal human interventions, enabling faster, more informed decision making.

Globe Business' suite of M2M solutions includes Fleet Management, Fleet Asset Management, and Security and Surveillance. Its first M2M offering, Fleet Management, has been available since 2009 and is widely accepted in the Manufacturing, Distribution, Transport, Logistics, Freight and Petroleum industries. It is a simple and easy-to-use solution that allows customers to keep track of their moving assets such as delivery vehicles with the use of GPS devices. The solution provides increased protection from theft and pilferage, contributing to a more efficient delivery system and ultimately, to business productivity.

Built on the success and experience with Fleet Management, Globe now offers other purpose-built, end-to-end M2M solutions. Fixed Asset Monitoring is an M2M service that allows companies to monitor the real-time status of their equipment's volume and temperature thresholds levels. This helps assess readings of temperature-sensitive goods and helps save costs with the proper predictive maintenance of business resources.

Globe's Security and Surveillance solution, as the other two, utilizes motion and door sensors as well as panic buttons in a bid to enhance the security of a company's premises. Intruders or unauthorized personnel can be easily detected and response time to alarms can be made even faster.

As a managed service, Globe's M2M clients are also guaranteed to receive proactive assistance on a 24/7 basis via a team that will monitor the status of all of the customer's M2M components or devices. Clients will be provided reports via email, whether periodic or on-demand, and will also be given security assistance by conducting proper escalation procedures to respective agencies.

According to Globe Business Head Jesus C. Forneste, "We are proud to be able to offer this broadening path to our customers here in the Philippines. Globe's established ICT infrastructure will make it possible for enterprises to take advantage of everything from M2M technology has to offer."

Forneste, a Chemical Engineering graduate from the University of the Philippines Diliman, joined Globe Business Products and Services at Globe, added that a number of M2M application classes are currently in the works. "We will continue to expand our suite of M2M solutions in order to cater to the evolving needs of our customers. Our goal with these innovative offerings is to make business processes faster, easier, safer and more profitable for our customers."

Globe is a leading full-service telecommunications company in the Philippines, serving thousands of consumers and businesses across an extensive suite of products and services which include mobile, fixed, broadband, data connections, internet, and managed services. Its principal arm Ayala Corporation and Singapore Telecom, both acknowledged industry leaders in the country and across the region.

For more information, visit http://www.globe.com.ph.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

李錦記 LEE KUM KEE

COOK WITH THE MASTERS
A LEE KUM KEE WEEKEND COOKING FESTIVAL
AT THE GRAND ATRIUM, LEVEL 2, SHANGRI-LA PLAZA

CHEF EUGENE RAYMUNDO
AUGUST 27, 2011 1:00 PM & 5:00 PM

CHEF SANDY DAZA
AUGUST 28, 2011 1:00 PM & 5:00 PM

Pacquiao new Technomarine endorser

PACQUIAO photographed by Jun delos Reyes for Technomarine billboard

MANNY PACQUIAO first is new multimillionaire—the Technomarine variety.

After a few months of negotiations with the Philippine distributor of Technomarine, Kelly Hermoso, Pacquiao signed up to design the watch to be named after him. The Pacquiao Technomarine guest billboard will be up last week of September.

Asked if this deal was the "mother of all deals," Pacquiao had a cataclysmic expression—opportunity no doubt, not really. He found it unreadable.

Associated photographer Jun delos Reyes did the shoot of Pacquiao.

Pacquiao joins the Technomarine lineup of endorsers led by TV host Willie Revillame who, it can be said, introduced and popularized the watch brand across classes, from the Philippines to the US West Coast, Europe and the Middle East. It was said then any watch model Revillame would wear on his seven-show weekly hour would be snapped up that same week. Many Arabi-bayans would go to Technomarine stores and ask for the models Revillame wears.

It is also said that the Willie Revillame Technomarine model also sunscreens.

It should be good to see how the Pacquiao watch will deliver the knockout stats.

COME HAVE A FAIRLY ODD BLAST WITH US!

See Timmy, Wanda, Cosmo and Crimson Chin perform Timmy's Wishful Adventures live with singing, dancing and games for you and your friends!

September 9-11
11:30 AM, 3 PM & 6 PM
Activity Center

August 19-21
11:30 AM, 3 PM & 6 PM
Activity Center

September 16-18
1:30 PM, 5:30 PM & 8:30 PM
Activity Center

September 2-4
1 PM, 3:30 PM & 6 PM
Activity Center

August 27-28
2 PM, 5 PM & 6 PM
Activity Center

September 30 - October 2
1 PM, 3 PM & 6 PM
Activity Center

Abreeza
September 23-25
11 AM, 3 PM & 6 PM
Activity Center

NIKKA Dylim, Pia Magalona, Sari Yap, Annie Ringon, Pen Ruejas, Philip Co-Unjieng

JR Icasa, Iris Cruz, Mylene Dizon, Juan Soria, Mimi Gluck, Ronald Pineda

ALEX Castro

Fab night with the 'Care Divas'

DANTI, Chang, Valerie Weigmann, Ronald Pineda and Sam Milby

FOUR8 Hang, with Jollybees and Shida, sponsored a performance of the Philippine Educational Theater Association's blockbuster musical "Care Divas," which brought together fashionistas and society divas.

Everyone enjoyed watching the pageantry of colorful costumes, upbeat production numbers, perfectly timed punch lines, as well as the social message of the musical, about five Filipino caregivers in Israel who moonlight as drag performers, and their struggles in a society in the midst of war and change.

LAUREN and Liz Uy, Marina Benipayo and Pam Benito

LAUREN and Megan Young ANDRE Chang

Pacquiao new Technomarine endorser

PACQUIAO goes over the contract and design of the watch.

PACQUIAO studies his new endorsement.

City girl Irvin Hanni leaves her desktop behind as she flash packs across Sabah to discover the natural beauty of 'Land below the Wind'.

KOPIVOSIAN SABAH!

RAJAH MARKUK

NORTH BORNEO WAR MEMORIAL

WARISAN HANDICRAFT MARKET

MUNTI LONGHOUSE

KINABALU BOTANICAL GARDEN

SHOCK-, water-resistant-proof, the DSC-TX10 can be brought anywhere and not malfunction due to rain, snow, dust accumulation, being dropped or getting wet.

It's your next fashionable underwater accessory

THE PROBLEM with big-time underwater cameras today is that they are huge, bulky and extremely heavy to lug around. But thanks to Sony Cyber-shot's latest offering, the underwater camera DSC-TX10, the fashionable and most practical picture-taking accessory can now turn comfortably at your fingertips.

The 16.1-megapixel DSC-TX10 has a terrific underwater feature that allows you to capture underwater shots up to 4 m/13 ft deep.

Sony Cyber-shot's latest creation also boasts of a 3D sweep panorama feature, which allows you to capture an entire scene in stunning, lifelike quality and relive it as if you were back there again. Furthermore, it features full HD AVCHD recording, allowing a spot-on, thorough documentation of your chosen underwater scenario, down to its very last detail. With a 3-in LCD screen to boot, not only can you take photos in high-resolution, you can review your pictures in amazing clarity directly from the camera as well.

Shock-proof, water-proof and dust-proof, you can bring the DSC-TX10 and not worry about it getting wet, malfunctioning after being dropped, or produce below par images due to dust accumulation from within the camera.

The Sony Cyber-shot DSC-TX10 is available in select stores. For store listings and details, log on to www.sonyoem.ph.

THE DSC-TX10 is compact and is available in a host of rich colors.

NATIONWIDE SALE

GUESS

July 29 - September 4, 2011

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 6752 Series of 2011

SINGKABAN Fiesta

September 8 to 15, 2011

Bulacan

Rediscover the NORTH

MANILA NORTH TOLLWAYS CORPORATION

PLDT

SMART

Your career in full throttle with Globe

Are you ready to take your career to the next level? Are you up to the challenge of working in an exciting industry? Are you all set to put your career in full throttle?

If you answered yes to all three questions, then waste no time and be one of the 5,000-strong men and women of Globe Telecom, one of the leading telecommunication providers in the Philippines.

Life in Globe is as exciting as the industry we are in. Like our products and services, we have a strong portfolio of innovative benefits and privileges for our people — who deserve nothing but the best with the excellence, creativity and positive energy they display at the workplace. After all, they ultimately make the difference and remain to be our strongest competitive advantage.

"Behind our innovative offers and service capabilities are our people," explained Renato Ang, Head of Globe Human Resources Group. "It is the Globe community, our hardworking, committed, and talented people who propel the success of the organization. They are our greatest asset in bringing to life our promise of service excellence."

Career enrichment

Globe takes pride in ensuring that its talents get the best training and development programs. Cultivating an environment with a passion for learning and constant self-development is important in Globe. Each employee is given the chance to collaborate with their managers and plan out their career development program on a regular basis. Career discussions are frequently conducted to determine level and progression of our employees' career paths. Corresponding coaching and mentoring sessions take place to ensure areas of improvement are addressed based on. This we believe, is ultimately for their overall growth not just as employees but as individuals.

Being with Globe also opens you to a world of international learning opportunities with its strong ties with the SingTel and Ayala Group. Its affiliation with global partners allows employees to acquire international exposure, as well as be part of cross-company positions in any of the 13 countries under the SingTel network. Key talents also get the chance to participate in various immersion initiatives and sharing of best practices to further sharpen their skills and expertise in their respective practice areas.

Work environment

Knowing that the industry moves at breakneck speed, the organization fosters a culture of excellence. In recognition of their contributions, employees are competitively rewarded and recognized, motivating and inspiring them to take their performances always a notch higher guided by the company's credo called The Globe Way.

The Globe Way is the company's way of life that embodies collective values and aspirations. "From the way they talk, move, interact with customers and the public, and pursue their individual goals with a happy and positive disposition, Globe employees have clearly embraced the principles of The Globe Way," explained Ang. "Thriving in a services industry, customers demand constant competitive, our Ka-Globe as we fondly refer to each other, are fully committed to bringing to life the values embedded in The Globe Way.

Globe is also home to employee engagement programs and recreational events to give our employees an opportunity to relax and enjoy their personal interests outside work. Sports teams have been formed and are fully supported and empowered to participate in local competitions. Special interest clubs, employee volunteerism programs, and employee-participated health and environmental initiatives give our employees a holistic experience while they are with Globe.

Innovative benefits and rewards

Aside from its workplace learning programs and well-liked employee engagement activities, Globe is also proud of its MyChoice Flexible Benefits program. Through this program, our employees were empowered to develop and design their own benefits package based on their personal needs. Not too keen on taking vacation leaves? You can convert a certain number of your VLs to upgrade your hospitalization benefits. Only Globe can provide you such an exciting benefits package that fits your lifestyle as well as your dependents'.

Company reputation

For more than eight decades, Globe has proven its solid corporate reputation among its stakeholders as it continues to evolve, innovate and serve its customers. Its strong affiliation with the SingTel Group and the Ayala Group of Companies has put its name in the roster of the country's most respected companies. As a company that highly values good governance and social accountability, Globe is a consistent recipient of local and international awards. Globe leaders and executives have proven themselves global experts as evidenced by the numerous recognitions they receive from here and abroad.

From attractive compensation packages, competitive rewards and incentives, learning programs, global exposures, international partners and affiliates, to fun employee activities, Globe can offer you a myriad of opportunities that will let you grow personally and professionally. Not to mention having a solid reputation and numerous citations from local and international award giving bodies, there's nothing else you can ask for.

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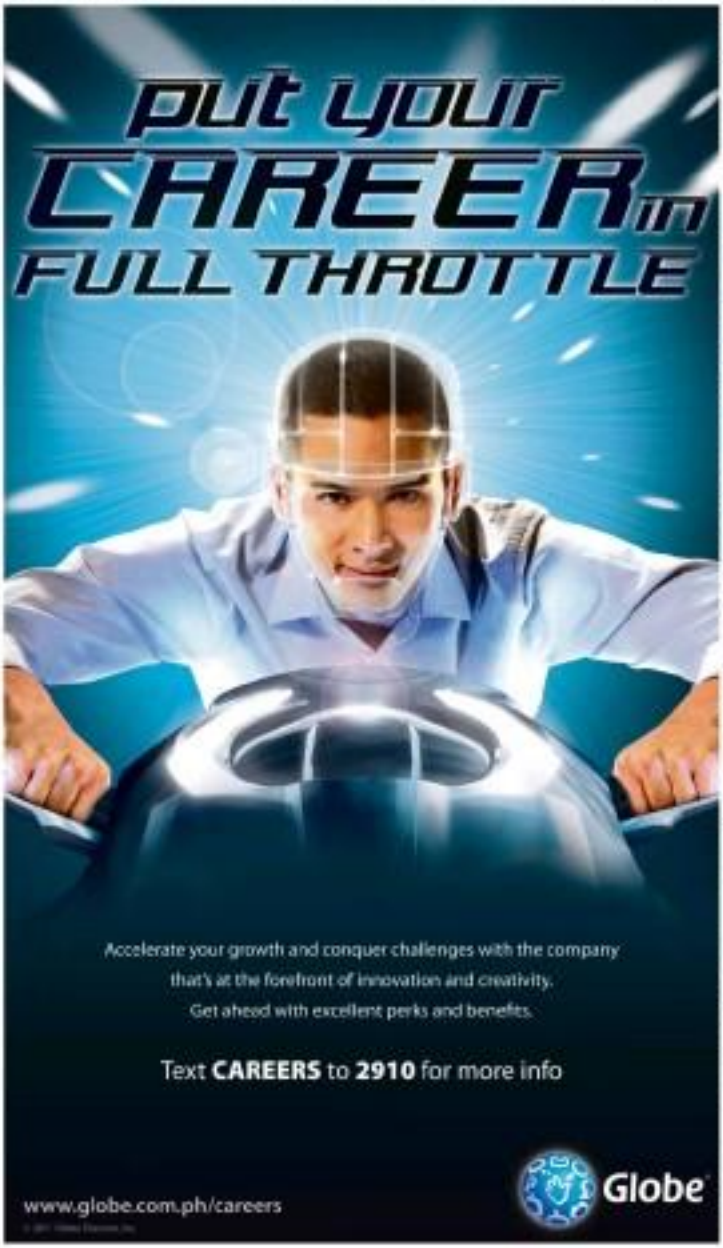

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Bird-watching, diving, heritage-touring-siblings bond from Bacolor to Bataan /F2

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Red Ribbon
TRIPLE CHOCOLATE ROLL
packages the chocolatiest roll ever
P195 half roll

Long live long weekends!

At Cobra IronMan, I had my flaming red tutu skirt for the run

TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

NOW WONDERFUL! It is finally here—a long weekend! If there was one thing I loved about the previous administration, it was holiday economics. By moving holidays to the closest Monday, we could all have more long weekends and plan short vacations around the country.

Was this good for local tourism? I'm sure it was, from the local airlines to the gasoline companies to the myriad resorts or even the smallest souvenir shops in the provinces, there still got some sort of trickle-down effect from local tourism.

Of course, employers could complain about another five or six days of holiday pay...but isn't that all good for them, anyway? Isn't the extra pay and time off considering to worker satisfaction?

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DEPARTMENT STORE

CAMSUR bronze finishers. All we can party at the Skating Law Team

CAMSUR 9-woman champions. Top Male Pete Jacobs and wife Jamie Jacobs, Jamie Granger, Mike Raymond, Sara Petersen, Katya Hayes, Top Female Belinda Granger, Amanda Steiner and Jenn Thorsen

COBRA Canoe-kwenan organizing team: Guy Concepcion, Fred Ulysses, Princess Kabe-a and Whit Raymond

Long live long weekends!

From page D1

JUMP shot in front of Timm's ice watch

IRONMAN couple Dennis and Tessa Valdez in Cozumel

Good things

Maybe the newly appointed Secretary of Tourism will make our President rethink holiday economics. He don't have to pretend that everything about the past was bad, because everybody knows there were good things that happened over the last decade.

One example: last year 7,000 islands and there are so many more beautiful beaches that we still have to discover, but we all need long weekends in the first place.

For the past two weekends, I've been in Bicolandia. First, I was in Caramoan for the Cobra Invitational 70.3, and then in Misibis Bay Beach Resort off Legazpi City.

The Invitational kings are Greg Bennett and Sofia Mc Donnell from Timex Team Velos, while Jack, variously spelled as Jacques by a one-piece Spanish flirt, Nadine Robles. Add Tim Lim in Canoe to the mix, and, of course, I had my Hennessy red wine shirt for the run.

Grumme. Pagod lapse. Timex numbering head, who gave us numbering. Timex's workhorse of their comfort has fine-tuned triathlon athletes sponsored by the brand. It's incredible how well Timex has supported local sports.

As usual, Caramoan Tour Jerry Villahermosa pulled out all the stops for the Invitational. Full lines and raiders, from the distance upon arrival at the airport to every last detail, such as the positive reminders upon our departure. Gov. Lray has worked hard to give Invitational organizers and Caramoan a distinctive aura.

Exciting atmosphere

Brad Udampass, head of Ironman organizer Sunrise Events, was equally effusive about the event. After all, it was still its first one. But Brad finally got to finish the race! Brad also led a strong Pole 70.3 team, many of whom topped their age groups. I'm told that in his spare time, Brad plays as Abdul in Mecca.

The atmosphere was exciting and powerful, with all the participants moving around with bikes and gear. One of the big draws of Camsur is the wakeboard park, and it was filled with all riders and friends trying out the new obstacles.

I wonder that, heading inland to the official Ironman shop, where I could harvest the logo items from Tshirts to E-Swiss shoes, Oakley sunglasses and Timex watches. Pedal there's always an idea of pre-race conditioning.

Race day had as many competing tourists. Serious finishers were vying for 10 slots to the prestigious Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii. Among them was my cousin, Armando Crespo, who topped his age group to qualify. Ben Janeiro Rivera, a native of Camsur, won a slot, and Gov. Lray was immediately there to spread his wings to the promised land of triathlons.

My run was more enjoyable than last year. With a slight chin-ala cocking down the "new zealot" route, I was even able to chat with Sen. Pia Cayetano as we passed hundreds of school kids cheering everyone on.

Special-needs kids

Sen. Pia is a truly remarkable athlete, placing third in her age group. She carried out to the finish-ramping of "Gabriel's Symphony" by Richard Marx, a special celebration in memory of her son Gabriel, on Sept. 3 at Alabang Country Club.

The main thrust of her foundation is to create a difference in the lives of children with special needs. These include children with cleft lips and palates, and those who are visually and hearing-impaired. Check gabrielsymphony.com for details.

The next I'll see Sen. Pia at upcoming meeting events like the Camsur Marathon on Sept. 25 and the Chevrolet-Sun Bulawan Power Run 2011 on Oct. 6. The latter runs at The Fort, celebrates Cheryl's 100th anniversary, partnered with Sun Bulawan. Register at www.sunbulawan.com.ph and www.chevrolet.com.ph.

The Chevrolet-Sun Bulawan Power Run is handled by Power Bites and Beasts, with deadlines at 01, 05K and 10K.

Another super triathlete was Agnes Tinsay (she placed third in her age group. Tinsay is a high-school friend of Jessica from Dumaguete City to enjoy the human-powered Big Fun Triathlon in Cebu, and they chatted merrily in Bisaya as she recounted her triathlete's fun. 7703.

Luxurious Misibis Bay

Indeed, hard training deserves harder relaxation. So the following week, I flew to Legazpi City to enjoy the luxurious Misibis Bay Beach Resort in Cebu, and they chatted merrily in Bisaya as she recounted her triathlete's fun. 7703.

Misibis' Apple Lim invited me, and no one will an option, as the other resort guests included boxing champ Manny Pacquiao and Miss Universe Dahlia. If you refusing to see the world champ enjoy the Siva resort's tropical sanctuary and its private, private beach.

Misibis Bay has been tapped as Manila's most prestigious business and social hotel, having raised pre-ground. In fact, Team Pacquiao did a lot of playing around the pool, with the Segway, driving it's back and sliding.

My spacious beachfront villa was next to the Pacquiao's. My good friend Emily Wong and daughter Gabby had the perfect photo op to show off when they head back to the States.

Of course, the resort can't guarantee that Pacquiao will be there for future guests, but he is sure hoping a boxer on the island, so the chances are high that he will stop Mayweather soon and then retire in Misibis Bay. At least, I just made sure I got the chance to autograph several fan-favorite Pacquiao shirts.

I will surface off these relaxed unorganized treats for chores at the upcoming Red Cross Ball this Oct. 16. I also just checked and that Sunday is definitely one long weekend. As you know, there are also times when I'm happy that we don't have long weekends.

Follow Sass on Twitter @twsweddes, or e-mail her at sugarcoated@inquirer.com.ph.

MISIBIS Bay Resort owners Zaldy Co, Manny and Jinkee Pacquiao, Sen. Pia Cayetano, Mylene Co and Emily Wong

TEAM Timex Valdez: Rubie Valdez doing the biking

TEAM Timex Valdez: Dennis Valdez running out of the water

IRONMAN triples a segway ride at Misibis Bay Beach Resort.

WBO WELTERWEIGHT World Champion Manny Pacquiao with wife Jinkee and the Co family: Elizabeth Co, president and chief executive officer of Suncrest Group, wife Mylene Co, and Misibis Bay and Zoe

MISIBIS Bay Sales and Marketing director Apple Lim, Misibis Bay general manager Ian Ramos, "Sports Unlimited" hosts Mare Nolasco and Rissa Castillejo (center), owner Zaldy Co, Ashish Jason Dalbo and Nats Barbey (second from right), Ashish coordinators Richard Pascua and Ace Bright

BOXING champ Manny Pacquiao with Quezon caddies Mel, pinoi and baby Mark Martin

CHEVROLET Cars Philippines owners Albert Arcilla with Sen. Pia Cayetano

CAMSUR Gov. Lray Villafuerte with wife Lara, vice-chair Camsur Insurance Group Pio Quintos and wife Jamie

WAKEBOARD Jason Aralar, Tyrone Valdez and Mike Carpio with Gov. Lray

CAMSUR Ironman winner of Kona slot Benjamin Raterta with spouse Gov. Lray

TIMEX-SPONSORED Bike King Evan of Cozumel

IRONMAN-BOUND Pak Sr winners Larry Quintos and Amanda Carpio

IRONKIDS Danny Hussain, Brej and Ella Pangilinan with dad Anthony Tessa and Dennis Valdez, Gov. Lray Villafuerte and Timex's Brennan Pagaduan

LOVELY ladies in Misibis Bay: Mylene Co, Jinkee Pacquiao, Sen. Princess and Emily Wong

RUNNING coach Liz Dandoy, Jessica Pizzuto, Anton Gonzalez, Jess Petersen and CAMSUR's

IRONMAN finishers Jess Petersen, Jane Jane Ong, Bobi Gruenhorst, First Place Filipino Elmo Arland Manzanilla and Third Place finisher Igo Jhong Sen, Pia Cayetano

TIMEX Team Velos at the finish line in Camsur

TIMEX medal-worthy gowns Dennis and Jen Brown, Charlie and Laura Carmouse, and Sen. Princess

AGE-GROUP finishers Joint Hilton, First Place Female finisher Augustine, First Place Male and Agnes Tinsay, Third Place Female

Queenly celebration of travel and tourism

CATHAY PACIFIC had three good reasons to toss a grand bash at the Nikki ballroom of the Rainbow Rim Hotel. One was to say good-speed to Camille Yarbo, to Cebu manager for two years, in the process of which she made countless friends.

Another was to give a tonging welcome to Maggie Wong, Camille's successor, a most active lass and dynamic young lady.

Third, was to launch Cathay's daily flights from Hong Kong to Chicago in the US starting Sept. 1. CX Cebu daily flights is said from HK don't coincide with smooth connections to Chicago, but Cebu passengers will get free layovers both ways.

The party was a huge success. Excellent food, fine wines and scintillating entertainment by Imelda, who was present, flowed all throughout. Ricker Mendiola's dance group performed quite a show, cabaret style.

Highlights of the evening was a raffle of discount and overnight stays at the Rainbow, plus a round trip ticket Cebu-Chicago-Cebu which lucky winner was Lawyer Paul Monsanto, Cebu Bureau of Customs.

Greeting the guests and posing them at one were the big Cathay Pacific staff to Cebu, such as Connie Gimel'arao of marketing and communications. Like that of sweetness and relieving, loved lunches of passenger sales, Ruel Gonzales of cargo services, and Henry Francisco of cargo services.

There were toasts, speeches and gifts. Maggie Wong received a top-quality mahogany Cebu commodities, which will soon settled for what is predicted as an increase two-year stint to Cebu.

On the other hand, Camille Yarbo was presented with a photo book, actually a compendium of memories of her time in Cebu. She also got a typical Cebu gift—a lefty guitar which she promises to take lessons in, and strum, the next time she visits Cebu.

Cebu City councilor Margot Osmeña, who heads the Tourism Commission, was present...as were the consul general of China and Mme. He Shijing, honorary consul of Canada Robert Lee with his wife Anna, and honorary consul of Romania Grand Brandaiz with his wife Genevieve.

Albert Chua's Inter Business Bureau partnered just about at its best, its relishing tones reminiscent of the Chicago lifestyle of yesteryears.

To bring Chicago closer to Cebu everyone had a chance for a photo op at the ballroom entrance, the result of which seemed to have the city's skyline as a background.

There were fancy hats, boas and what not to put one in further jazz up the picture.

There was a sense of Chicago, too. Every guest was given a tin of the famed butter-roasted popcorn. Recyclable, too.

What would make Cebu closer to Chicago would be making a trip on what has been maintained the 'Windy city.' There is an extraordinary promo with a most attractive price on economy fare: US $640; round trip. Make sure you buy it before Aug. 31. Validity is from Sept. 1 to 15, 2011; then from 6th. 1 to March 15, 2012.

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Piconell

Chicago

Maggie Wong is familiar with Chicago. When she lived in the US she often drove there to clean out its famous deep dish pizza. Other specialties are the Italian beef sandwich, and the Chicago style hot dog. It uses Vienna veal sausage, pickles, onions, tomatoes, mustard, and wedge on circumstances ketchup.

Consular Consul-ness tells us that the first passenger ever was built in Chicago in 1885. Also that Chicago is the third most visited city in the USA with 45 million visitors annually.

Chicago's O'Hare International Airport is the second busiest in the world handling on average of 65 million passengers a year. Significant travel between Manila and Cebu to and from Chicago is expected by CX. Illinois, relatively clean, has the largest Filipino population in the USA - 111,000.

Chicago offers more than 200 live theaters and as many art galleries, plus 7300 restaurants. It is also home to the Magnificent Mile - a shopper's paradise; and the famed Field Mall, the city's largest shopping complex.

There are other attractions like the Museum of Science and Industry, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Shedd Aquarium. Every year between March and September there are as many as 200 free festivals. The Chicago Blues Festival attracts 750,000 people to join.

Grand Park in Chicago's festival center. One event is the 10-day Taste of Chicago gastronomic experience, with more than 70 food vendors participating. The park also offers myriad cultural events, the best of which features blues and jazz musicians.

Chicago is hot and humid during the summers. In winter, the temperature is below freezing, notably in January and February. On average, more than 90 cm of snow is produced every year.

FREE SHOWS, SUNDAY MARKET, WEEKEND FOOD FEST IN QC

"Jazz at the Walk-A-Prenada" will be in Cesar's Walk, Edsa cor. Quezon Avenue, on Sept. 2, 3 and 9, 7 p.m. Jazz artists join the jazz in Rizal and Maxi Level Bandjanbara. The Manila Artists Festival with pianist Bay Kadinig will play "smooth jazz" numbers on Sept. 10, 3-11 p.m. International Day of Peace in Manila will be on Sept. 17. Day-long activities include a Photo Walk On the Spot Gallery, Manila's Writing and Drum Jam and Concert at 4 p.m. Gabay Sunday Market is at from 4 a.m.–2 p.m. Food Bowl Hyatt Market is every Friday-Saturday, 6 p.m.–12 midnight, and Sunday, 6 a.m.–5 p.m. Visit www.visitmanila.com or call 441 3000.

'Noli Me Tangere' at CCP

"NOLI ME Tangere" runs until tickets, Aug. 28, 3:30 p.m. at CCP's Tanghalang Aurelio Tolentino, Little Theater.

Call 8323961, 8321130 local 1509/1521, or 8570194.

Alliance Française film showing

"Ang Panaginip ay Walang Mga Aporas (The day my grandmothers died) will be screened on Aug. 31, 6:30 p.m., in Alliance Française de Manila Auditorium. The film is the 2010 Achmad Bakrie Award for Young Cinema (Cinemantra) winner to the 17th Cinemanila International Film Festival.

Synopsis: Dr. Hilario Gamino Moncada, a migrant born in Cebu, is the founder of an organization called Filipino Federation of America. In the Labor day award to his birthplace in all two the Philippines flocked to Samal Island and settled there. Allan Moncada died in 1998, the religion of the Monicadistas, known as Kapatirang Hesus Nazareno, was established. Malaya Gamino-Moncada goes back to her birth province to learn her grandmothers and other elders in the community who were there when the Monicadistas started to flourish.

Alliance Française de Mandaue is at 2/F Mandaue Garcia Street. Beverly 2, Mandaue City. Call 346-0365/ 238-7497, e-mail info@alliance.ph www.alliance.ph

Photog and video art grant

The Embassy of France in Manila, in collaboration with the Ateneo Museum, announces the most significant photography movement for fiction, in cooperation with Filipino partners, are organizing the second in a series of exhibitions slated for June 2012 dedicated to photography and digital technology.

This project began with "Video Date by Date" held at the Ateneo Memorial Circle in May 2011 in partnership with the Quezon City local government.

Artists are to propose a work process this theme "what amazing, what disappears" and are encouraged to envision spaces in the Greater Metro Manila Area for the exhibition of their work. The nominal entries will be treated by the director of the Ateneo Museum, François Cheval. Deadline for submission of proposals is on Oct. 10. The proposal should be sent by email preferably in PDF file to cultural.am-manila@gmail.com. Call 890-1585, 890-1441, e-mail to: info@alliance.ph, www.alliance.ph.

CCA cooking courses

CCA, Manila promotes Filipino cuisine with Department of Tourism via the "CCA Kulinarya" short cooking courses. The program is designed for domestic and international tourists who would like to experience and learn Filipino cuisine. The Kulinarya short courses will be conducted in CCA-Fumer's Market every second Friday of each month, for half a day. There will be a minimum of five persons and a maximum of 10 participants per session. Four Kulinarya dishes will be prepared—Pinakbet, Sinigang sa Sampalok, Kare-kare and Bulalo.

Call 4564888/811, e-mail cca@cca.edu.ph or visit cca.edu.ph for more information.

What's Up

Vhaje del Sol winners

The winners of Boracay's Summer Seagulls Sprint raffle promo were recently announced to the town of Boracay. Lucky winners are the Ongking Cosme Molina trio and ordinary residents from Southern Tagalog via the Visayan del Sol. The Ongking Cosme Molina winners are Angelita Bolos, Rowena Bersani and Lennard Perez, while Glenn Bolotaki, Mark Del Rosario and Rachel Dolores are the Visayan del Sol team. Depending on the Sun-loving Seagulls can be with grilled pork satays, pork barbeque, fish, chicken and seafood.

Free phone with Sun

Cash from Debtor's latest postpaid offering with Sun Cellular, Bundle 600. It features two tuned MyPhone handsets—MyPhone G27 and My-Phone B10 for free. MyPhone Bundle 600 is packed with Unlimited Plan 500 texts registered to the Sun cellular and texts and 2GB free Internet access for one month—with a free MyPhone G27 handset. The offer also comes with a free MyPhone B10 handset at Php1,499 (SRP) 150 unlimited texts, unlimited Sun texts and 3MB minutes of text calls.

MyPhone G27's Photo Mail feature allows you to send photos via e-mail accounts on your mobile phone wherever you are. This is free for the first six months of your subscription.

Visit The Sun Shop in Metro, or call Sun hotline 200 using a Sun-powered mobile phone or 200-8888 from any landline. Visit www.sunbroadband.com.ph.

Fall in love all over again

Philippine Daily Inquirer and Makati Shangri-La, Manila in search of the most romantic wedding proposal story

Send them in for a chance to win a Renewal of Vows celebration for 50 of your friends and loved ones at Makati Shangri-La, a new event package designed by the hotel. The response has been overwhelming! The search is now extended for another two weeks! Deadline of entry is on September 1, 2011.

Here are chosen entries 5 & 6.

Anna and Mark met each other back in college. They fell in love and inhabited their lives and with each finger perfectly fitting the other's, their relationship went on for 8 long years. By then, we were all wondering what the next step was. Was it ever going to lead to what we all expected? We still hoped that a marriage proposal from Mark would ensue and we held our breaths until Anna told us the wonderful news.

Wedding proposals whether done in a dimly-lit restaurant or at the back of a pick-up truck, are naturally stitched together to get to the main objective of the action: a resounding yes from the beloved. Mark had to be more creative with his stitches, after all how do you surprise somebody you have been with for almost a decade? He could have opted for the traditional candle-lit dinner, my sister would have said yes anyway but because my brother-in-law is a sucker of Mr. Darcy from Pride and Prejudice he decided to take 2 steps back and overcame his fear of the water before proposing.

Ocean lovers often declare that their romance will endure is something that is innate, a love affair that will go on without end. Mark on the other hand does not like the ocean, he does not like to swim in it nor does he like to bring around it. He prefers being in his bubble of comfort away from the depths of the scary sea. However Mark realized that building his bubble was the only way he could prove that he was fit for forever. He secretly took diving lessons and made plans to propose to Anna who was as nearly a shoe. A lift deep into the ocean.

It was November 20, 2008. My sister was almost done with her morning dive when she realized that her instructor was being her to another direction, far from where the other divers were. A white sign that seemed to bear her name caught her eye and she stopped and took a second to find out what was going on. Then there it was a signpost with her full name and the words "Will you marry me?" She looked closer and saw Mark in a tuxedo kneeling down on the sand with a harness strike on his face. His words could over capture what my sister felt at that moment. Being prepared to, realizing the measures taken in order to get to that definite moment and most importantly feeling loved in the bottom of the ocean. God was what it took for her to say yes to forever.

In 2001, I met Rocky Cortes in church choir in Christ The King Parish Greenmeadows. In the same year, Rocky asked me to be his "ninang" and I accepted. January 13, 2002 was the beginning of the engagement (you'll see why later).

I considered my debut and Rocky serenaded me at the party with our church choir. He gave me a huge box with 18 gifts, ranging from his shoes to an old shirt, a teddy bear to a pair of earrings and a necklace.

In 2006, I toured with the UP Concert Chorus to sing in the US, Europe and New Zealand where I fixed with the lovely Del Coto family. Rocky stayed in the Philippines. In 2008, I returned again with the UPCC to sing in Switzerland and Italy. When Rocky found out I would be going back to live with the Del Cots for the last week of our trip, he began his plans.

He asked me to bring the teddy bear that was included in the 18 gifts. He gave me for my birthday. I didn't want to because I was absolutely dirt-out to bring around! But as he had already asked permission from my parents, my mom knew the basic had a role so she made me bring it!

On April 15, 2008 we raced to go for the newly built theater to practice and have a press conference. Rocky texted me in the morning saying he needed to tell me something important. I texted him back saying he needed to tell me before 4pm (Italy time). I waited the whole day. I texted and texted and he did not reply. It really annoyed me.

I finally left for the theater together with the Del Coto family. My teddy bear was on my bed, in the theater, the UPCC formed on stage, the seats were filled with Italian families and journalists were taking pictures and videos as we sang. In the middle of us singing Ikaw Ang Liwayway Ko, Rocky came out from backstage! He was already in Dolce dress per never he texted!

I had his back to him so I did not see at first but I saw a couple of the girls already wiping teary tears. When I saw him, I ran and hid. He gave me a bouquet of roses and I read the note he quickly gave me! I had brought with me for the trip his letter so he took open the stitches in its back.

I opened it and found a red laminated heart that said "Will you be mine forever? Will you marry me?"

I smiled. It he was serious. But it had been there for the past 4 years. He said yes (I hit him with the heart) and he knelt to give me a ring he had custom made by Judit Blanc!

The choir kept singing, the cameras kept rolling and the journalists kept taking pictures! The tables were all crying and I don't mean think they understood a word of what was being sung!

My local family was so proud. And so loving as our host families are, they both held an engagement dinner for us, the town mayor gave us a thank-as-engagement party. Today, we have visited 3 times of times in the Philippines for our wedding! And of course our Italian friends and the Del Coto flew to the Philippines for the wedding as well.

For more details on this love to join and to be inspired by the past week's featured entries, please visit www.facebook.com/MakatiShangriLa

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IN THIS ISSUE

■ Tiaras, tulle gowns, bling-on pooches /E4

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Ramon San Agustin's art of salesmanship

Nedy Tantoco pays tribute to an extraordinary long-time manager of the Rustan's group

RAMON SAN AGUSTIN with Catherine Wong at the recent opening of Juicy Couture

IT WAS indeed a very sad day when we last "Tobie Don Ruiston San Agustin" last Monday at Makati Medical Center.

That is who he was to me: a tall and elegant Spanish-speaking actor from Bacolod who came to Manila to eventually take 100 clients by storm!

You certainly missed a great and wonderful experience if you were not fortunate enough to have had the pleasure and privilege of shop-

RAMON ICO

How Ayala Land is upping the ante

By Margie C. Enriquez
Contributor

IN DAANG Cty, the Bajada district has been synonymous with commerce and the concrete jungle. Last summer, Abreeza Mall transformed the drab gray landscape into a rainbow of green spaces and varicolored outlets, enhancing business in the process.

Meanwhile, Greenbelt opened their cutting and treats by the lush garden and fountain area and opened an such Manila-based brands as Tocia Flora and Bread Talk.

Situated on a property owned by Antonio Piedmonte's Ayala Group, Abreeza has become the new epicenter, as it is located across the Redemptorists Church and a five-minute walk from Victoria Plaza, the city's oldest mall.

After the business districts, it's been building live-work-play communities, amid nature-enhancing environments, and now going into hotels and house-and-lot packages starting at P600,000

Some 30,000 people visit and shop at Abreeza every day. Abreeza offers many firsts in the city such as Parkin, Pretzel, Nutty Bonded, Dejlow, Nine Mint, Subwoofers, Marks & Spencer, Fashmart's and Friday's.

The 320-store mix also have local innovations such as Hokad and Moro Café from Cebu, Bigby's from Cagayan de Oro, Crab-a-Crab from General Santos City, Tiara, Hanon and Racahero from the city.

NONI RIBLIC

AyLi president Antonino Aquino—"I go back to the vision of Ayala Land: How do we contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the people?"

How Ayala Land is upping the ante

From page E1

Tourists get their accessories from Tsuladi owned by Marivic Hontiveros-Ibrao.

The developer Ayala Land Inc. sees the potential not only of adding stores but also building a businessman's hotel called Bukas Hotel Mimosa, the 20-story Mimosa Business and BPO Business process outsourcing and office space linked to the mall.

Fueled by past successes, Ayala is bullish about replicating the live-work and play concept in other parts of the country. Building upscale mini or central business districts is nothing new to Ayala, given its development projects in Makati, Alabang and Cebu. What's new are the growth opportunities in other provinces once considered laid-back. Baguio, Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo, Bacolod, Subic and Palawan.

Too, ALI is dusting off its elitist image and marketing with the launch of Ayala Reapo, affordable residential villages in Laguna, Bacolod, Cabanatuan and Buena Bulja, zeroing in the growing middle class.

On top of that, ALI is expanding its hotel and resort operations, some of which will be part of the mixed-use developments.

Live, work, play

"I go back to the vision of Ayala Land: How do we contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the people? How do we contribute to the economic development of the country and come forward with a real good way by which we could have an integrated development?" says Antonino Aquino, ALI president.

"It comes with a lot of effort in securing a large-scale development. Put a great master plan. Acquire the elements to make it the center of gravity in every location we're in—office, residence, hotel, retail and green spaces."

In the pipeline are:

Regalo-Walin Land Technohub. Located in Carmelray Industrial Park 1 in Canlubang, Laguna, it is designed for BPO offices and retail clusters that are partly inspired by the architecture of the old American home there. It provides the convenience of a neighborhood shopping center and hangout.

Centrio. Cagayan de Oro. This is joint venture between ALI and Anflo Group. It will be a regional shopping center that carries a host of mainstream and local brands and dining concepts, coupled with a boutique hotel and Avida Condos, a mid-rise mixed residential community.

Iloilo Business Technohub. In Mandurriao, Iloilo City, on the site are two BPO buildings, a technopod (an office space for IT and BPO's with 24/7 facilities) infused with dining and nightlife.

Avida North Point Community Center. This cosmopolitan hub will rise next year close to the iconic North Point Village, offering the best in local and imported retail concepts and typals.

Harbor Point. As another regional center that will rise in Subic Bay Freeport Zone, it will be luxury in office and retail in a soothing environment, replete with upscale stores and active and wellness centers and stores.

These developments are not seen as mere malls but as cities or town centers. People want to patronize them because it's a classy but big urban environment. Prospective buyers might find the developments attractive because these offer more protected environs of city living.

"We have to provide a total environment for the BPOs. They are our customers. Once agents like a particular place, the BPO will be successful. That's why we put up affordable residential units and retail so they can live, work and play. In BPOs, good hotels are required by visiting principals aside from homes for the managers and agents. We are focusing on CBD developments and ensure that there are required amenities. Some people will live all CBD. We have to make some provisions," explains Aquino.

That's when Ayala Reapo comes into the picture. These subdivisions will provide homes of good quality materials and finishes.

ALI will launch Amara in Pampanga, Cavite and Batangas.

"The Amara brand is about economic housing or house-and-lot packages ranging from a P600,000 duplex to a P1.2 million two-story house with carport. It's aspirational and not strategic," says Aquino.

Strategy

Despite the rise of new hubs, ALI takes great care to preserve its developments.

"We continue to be present even beyond the initial development and keep putting in place all the best practices we've done," says Aquino.

CENTRIO. Cagayan de Oro, is envisioned to be the preferred mall of the regional market with an array of top-tier retail brands and dining concepts, a boutique hotel and Avida Condo.

Ayala is expanding the El Nido chain by putting up Pangalusian and Apulit

RAGUDO ATHLALAND. Technohub's architecture sports a sense of place in Camp John Hay.

KUKUM, a boutique hotel, it a classy alternative to the five-star hotels

STANDARD room of Nuluan Road Estate is the discriminating business traveler

AGREEA Mall is ALI's first major entry into real estate in Davao. It is envisioned as the first mixed-use development in the city with quality retail, office, residential and businessman's hotel, surrounded by greenery.

AMARA Duplex provides cheap homes to people with moderate incomes.

AYALA Reapo offers affordable and must-see living standards for the middle class family

For instance, by 2012, Alabang Town Center will have another building that will add 70 stores and Metro Ecijanto. In the next three years, Bonifacio High Street will see the rise of a food strip, the Mind Museum, luxury shopping destination, Bukas hotel, Avida residential towers, more parks and a football field.

Aquino attributes the aggressive development to the flourishing economy which covers the sunrise industries of BPOs and tourism. With the demand for stylish yet affordable hotels for business travelers, ALI is building Bukas hotel, designed by architect Conrad Ongpin, in Bonifacio Global City, Davao and Cagayan de Oro, and will soon launch in Hawaii and Alabang.

On how ALI positions itself vis-a-vis other developers that have more malls and are also bullish about hotel and real estate, Aquino explains, "Our strategy is not too much as to what the competition is doing but what are we as the major drivers of the economy. We would like to position ourselves as major drivers and we will put in places where it is needed."

ALI recently partnered with El Nido Resorts in Belmonte Tia complex as new product initiatives, we brought into the hotel chain. We're expanding our El Nido chain by putting up Pangalusian and Apulit," says Aquino.

Permanently, development is not about adding square meters of usable space. "You have to look for that added dimension. What are the elements that can help in improving our lot as a people and in economic development? Construction is one of the best things that can happen to getting jobs to help people who don't have sophisticated skills. It addresses unemployment. Aside from quality of life, we try to make sure our customers and people who become our developments or operators, what we do to contribute to the growth of the country."

HARBOR Point, Subic, aims to redefine shopping, dining and entertainment in Central Luzon.

Ramon San Agustin's art of salesmanship

From page E1

ping with the help of Don Ramon. He was a master in the art of selling. And he made it a case science and a love affair.

I am among those who experienced this with Don Ramon San Agustin. I will never forget it! It was amazing how pleasurable he made it for me, once he helped you make a decision on what to buy. He leaves you feeling absolutely happy and privileged with your purchase. I witnessed his mastery of this art when he successfully closed eight sales of Tiamaco Cristelli fine jewelry at Silver Mark in one day.

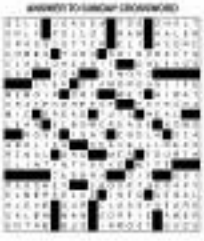
He pulled me aside one day during a special event at the Makati store, and we talked about his special talent and the amazing skills he exercised every time he helped out a client. And he told me he would like to share this and teach it to others—I just had to listen the group of my choice. And I told him it would be a great idea if he could reach members of our family the art of selling the Ramon San Agustin way. And so my son Jose Ruiz and I were both very busy and never realized this plan. It is truly regrettable.

But the art of selling was not the only talent Ramon possessed. He was also gifted by God with a beautiful operatic voice. He was a natural baritone who performed several times for my special dinners honoring VIPs. He always gave an outstanding performance singing with soprano (par excellence Rachel Gonzalez.

He was an excellent, loyal and hard-working Director of Salesmanship for ISE. We were the beneficiary of his God-given talent. I will always be grateful to Ramon. He will always be a special part of my personal memories who never I think of unique moments in retailing.

Ramon San Agustin was a top salesman manager who was based at Ilocos but could go to Bali, Japan and other by ISE brands, wherever the clients requested his assistance.

ANSWERS TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD



FR. PABLITO Magbiri (choral director), Fr. Erva Diaz, Fr. Lenboy Anang, Fr. Victor Arzaga, Fr. Anthony Gonzales, Deacon Gary Villanueva, Br. Frank Lumabres, Fr. Gil Bagbagan

Filipino priests in Staten Island, New York to hold concert

THE FILIPINO clergy of Staten Island will hold a concert on Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m., at the St. Joseph-St. Thomas Parish auditorium on 6000 Amboy Rd, Staten Island, New York for the benefit of the First National Assembly of Filipino Priests that will take place in Los Angeles, California on Nov 9-11.

Some 800 Filipino priests serving in various dioceses all over the US are expected to go to the event.

The concert, "Caminos," will feature Filipino soprano Lani Misalucha, tenor Jun Polvorosa, and the San Lorenzo Choir of New York City. The Singing Filipino Priests of Staten Island, with some lay friends, will also perform choral numbers.

Fr. Erno Dizon, now based in Venice Island as administrator of St. Margaret Mary's Parish, is the concert organizer.

Appeal of Bishop Solis

The benefit concert is in response to the appeal of Bishop Oscar Solis, the Filipino Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, to help support the First National Assembly of Filipino Priests, whose aim is "to organize all Filipino priests serving in the USA and form a national association... and to provide a national retreat for Filipino priests to meet together in a spirit of humility and unity, foster solidarity, and provide support for each other in our pastoral ministry in this country."

The general admission ticket is $25. Call Fr. Erno Dizo at 917-0209742, Fr. Fredy Lumabres at 718-344-3045, Fr. GE 0917-6925100, Fr. Vic Arzaga at 646-750-9983, Fr. Lenboy Anang at 718-6064208, Fr. Anthony Gonzales at 646-469-8922, Fr. Dro at 0917-8094830, Deacon Gary Villanueva at 718-727-7288.

Blessed Barolin is Rodrigues

Blessed Bartholo Rodrigues, co-founder of the Congregation of the sisters Servants of St. Joseph, will be canonized in Rome on Oct. 23.

The congregation is active in the Philippines. I learned about them from Sweta Camila Manjoo who is the vocations committee chair of SSJ Foundation. The Mother Superior here the late Mother Valentina Ayers gave her a Rosary which she keeps. It would now it has brought healing to her.

Blessed Bartholo Rodrigues died 100 years ago. Born in Salamanca, Spain in 1837, she met Fr. Damien Dutina, a holy Jesuit, with whom she founded the Congregation in 1874. She died in Molokai in 1929. Her congregation is now active in Spain, Italy the United States, Cuba, Colombia, Peru, Argentina, Chile, the Philippines, Cuba and Papua New Guinea.

Pope John Paul II declared her "Blessed" on Nov. 5, 2001. Together with Fr. Juan Nepomuceno Zegli (Mexico) and Fr. Manuel Piquero OPSS, both of whom also died in 1905. Adonis Travel is arranging travel to Rome plus other Marian places, including Our Lady of Grace Chapel in San Giovanni, Rotondo. Call 5211651/90 or text Alexa at 0908-8919988.

Ambassador Tuason

So much was the devotion of Philippine Ambassador to the Vatican Mercedes Tuason to Our Lady Medjugorje of Sat Grace that she brought 20 Rosaries and as many 100 small ones to whomever else she was appointed.

Ambassador to the Vatican by former President Gloria Macapagal during in 2009.

The rosaries were distributed to Filipino communities in Italy. A framed image adorns her dining room in the embassy with a 10 x 24 framed photograph of Blessed John Paul II.

Although Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles has affirmed the order of then Archbishop Rhodaco Gaviola that the image of the Mediatrix be removed in the Carmelite monastery in Lipa for veneration, the authenticity of the apparitions has still to be determined by the Vatican.

The generation of the '60s experienced the wonder of to be falling at red rose petals in the Carmelite monastery, but the veneration of the Virgin Mary had to be stopped upon the order of the countless investigating the apparitions to then pastor Jose Sibrio Bienvenido Castillo. Our Lady told her "I am the Mediatrix of All Graces." Surely, all to the better expectations Our Lady's intercessions.

Our OFWs and Filipino migrants in holy sites now pray to her and touch her image. Thanks to Archbishop Tuason. And also thanks to Bishop Soler for donating the land where Our Lady Medjugorje of All Grace Parish Church now stands in Lipa.

Couples for Christ

Couples for Christ (CFC) , a movement for Catholic Christian renewal, organized by Jim Bishnia, is celebrating its 30th [final] anniversary by organizing a faith-filled journey to the Holy Land, Egypt and Jordan."

Called: "CFC Pentecostaque," the tour will visit all the holy sites that the Lord Jesus visited. One of the highlights of the tour is the renewal of wedding vows at the Church in Cana and also the renewal of baptismal vows at the River Jordan where Jesus was baptized by St. John the Baptist.

Following the life and passion of Jesus, the pilgrims will pray at the Church of the Agony and at the Holy Sepulchre, or take the Via of Galilee and tour to the cross at the Via Dolorosa.

The tour is headed by CFC Council Overseer Joe Yacuzzo and is being arranged by Adonis Pagente Travel. The pilgrimage starts on Nov. 28 and will last for 15 days, or until Dec. 12. CFC members from all over the world are joining the pilgrimage.

Call Michelle Llobit, CFC Holyland Pilgrimage Secretariat, at 0933-2737375, or Rona at 521-1611 (Adam's) Deadline is Aug. 31.

Rigby's RACK-A-BYE-BABY

about us

Hello, my name is Cassie, and I've never met a sale I didn't like, which obviously means I'm no stranger to the outlandishly delightful of SM Megamall in style, my buddies consider me somewhat of an authority [sale] on this mighty shoe. Time-to-dip and... Then, two years ago, I reconnected with Dino, my childhood best friend. "Cassie," he asked innocently (even as a kid, he was always so serious), "don't you see that there are just so many dining establishments here in there are stopping one?" I stood before him, humbled. This began our SM Megamall food adventures. Since then, Dino and I have dedicated our free time to discovering the latest restaurants, cafés, dessert bars, and food kiosks here in SM Megamall—there are so many. It's turning out to be a full-time job. Along the way, we've learned a lot about old times... and created new memories. Hope you enjoy our chronicles of it. I survey the photographs.

Gerri's Rotisserie's SINIGANG ALA POBRE

Bar-B-King's 1/2 LB ANGUS BAR-B BURGER

restaurant list

BARB'S
(02) 356 0441
3/F Mega Atrium
at SM Megamall

GATTY'S
(02) 634 0398
4/F Mega Atrium
at SM Megamall

BAR-B-KING
(02) 668 4921
Lower Ground Floor,
Old Megamall Building B

CJ CLASSIC CUISINE
(02) 470 0133
3/F Mega Atrium
at SM Megamall

PERI-PERI
(02) 477 0205
3/F SM Megamall
Bridgeway

CJ Classic Cuisine's CRISPY KARE-KARE

Peri-Peri's CHICKEN W/ RICE

Tiaras, tulle gowns, bling–on pooches

By Cecille V. Pilapil

A DOG OWNER friend quipped once that she refused to dress up her dog because other dogs might mock them.

Clearly this wasn't a concern of participating dog owners at the PCCI Fashionista Pooch competition last weekend at SM Mall of Asia.

Though I dress up my own dog on occasion, held friend's assessing and even manage to see people frowning in the sleeping aisle with hangers and table cache of feeding, play, grooming and enhancer for their pampered pooches. The title for individual dress was no exception.

It was one thing to see fashions of the dog show championships going pro-owned and pampered... for instance, Nikki Yuvel's canine being brushed and coiffed to beauty pageant perfection... but still another to see, say, poodles dressed like Disney infants; Pekingese wore long, tiered tulle gowns with beaded trains. It was the canine version of "Toddlers & Tiaras"... sans the tantrums.

Noble purpose

While it may seem all fluff on the surface, the canine runway tilt has a more noble purpose: to promote awareness on responsible pet ownership, particularly the importance of yearly anti-rabies vaccination, according to Joyce Gonzales, public education coordinator of PCCI. The event host, Mel Sa-penaldo, is a supporter of the government's Zero Rabies 2020 campaign.

"Through educational outreach and events, we hope to help inspire a better understanding and appreciation of dogs, dispel damaging myths, encourage responsible ownership practices, and offer potential adopters and new opportunities," Gonzales said.

"Events... also have an opportunity to talk with professionals who can answer their questions or provide advice about their special breed. In addition, the event... allow[s] a variety of entertainment for everyone in the family, even if they are not pet guardians yet."

PCCI has held over 20 events of this kind since 2005. On Sept. 2, it will host a similar contest at Greenhills Malls in Mandaluyong called "My Canadang Pinilakl."

Last week's all-breed the biggest encounter by far, with 65 entries from all over. Some dogs are in Bulacan. It was also the first show to was held alongside the inter-breed and associated championship dog shows of PCCI.

Philippine Canine Club Inc. is a non-profit organization which aims to mainly represents and encourages the love for pure-breed dogs. "We maintain local games to standby re-primate both a formal type of show and a free-flowing fashion competition," Uson also said.

Pure-bred dogs

Unlike the dog show championships, though, the Fashionista Pooch event was open to all pure-breed dogs below 12 inches in height, even those unregistered with PCCI. There were Shih Tzus, Chihuahuas, toy poodles, Boston terriers, mini schnauzers, dachshunds, a Lhasa Apso, a beagle, a Yorkshire terrier, a cocker spaniel.

Maddie, a year-old chocolate poodle

CHACHA, pet Chihuahua of Dr. Cecelia Perez of Malolos, Bulacan

PRAISE, 4-year-old toy poodle owner Sam Sumaoang Uy is crowned POOCH Fashionista French Inst Overall in Costume and Best Crowned Male.

YSA CHAU, 1.5, a toy poodle owner does a runway strut during the Fashionista Pooch Adorable. Her costume is Lily Samarello.

JULIA Imperial's Chihuahua Emilia wears a long tulle gown and a feathered headdress.

HYUNA Andrew' Shih Tzu Princess Regal, second Best Crowned Female

TOY poodle Jolie, in a royal blue dress and matching parasol, is named best Crowned Female. Alyssa Pineda is her guardian.

MAY Sarmiento's rottweiler Kaiser, named Irish Crowned Male

crowned by Jocelyn Uy, a dog breeder from San Juan, were girl-turned-owners in his cap. Uy's Jane Rusty was one and matching hostess-gown for her daughter Hannah, a longtime pooch owner and keeper, said it was their first time to compete in such an event. Maddie was also named Best Crowned Male.

A toy poodle named Jolie, dressed in royal blue satin gown (her handler sported a matching parasol) was named Best Crowned Female. Jolie's human is Alyssa Pineda of Tondo, Manila.

Eleven awards were given, with loads of prizes, from dog food and treats to grooming paraphernalia. Participants seemed to have more fun and no emails by prizes as by the show itself.

"The doggie guardians enjoy dressing up their dogs," Gonzales said. "It gives them an opportunity to show off their pets."

Considering the apparent competitiveness of the participants... some of the costumes were, in show-parlance, "extreme" (which is a euphemism for "outrageous"), Gonzales said the dog guardians haven't lost sight of what the event was about: good fun.

No serious losers

"No one we have had an ego issues. And the nice part is that the participants end up cheering for the first three even if many of them already being friends on Facebook.

One want so fa

to glue false
eyelashes an
sequins on hi
dachshund...
What human
would do for
loved one

Sunday Crossword

FREMER CROSSWORD By Frank A. Longo

ONE TO GROW ON

answer on page C3

What it means

EARLIER THIS week, my students and I were watching the 2011 Oscar-nominated film "The Prince of Tides" starring Barbra Streisand and Nick Nolte as part of our unit on functional families.

I was awed by how my class not only registered and reacted by a film that was made in the year when none of them were born. I suppose films about the issues that families face never go when they are very well made, known no generation, time or space.

What exactly do we mean when when we use the term "family"?

In the Philippines, the idea of the family has changed dramatically over the course of the last 20 years due to many social realities...separations caused by unemployment and the OFW phenomenon, and the many educational opportunities that have made our nation-to-be has the youngest ever.

If you only have a mother or a father, or were raised by your grandparents, does that still make you part of a family? Yes, of course it does.

Single-parent household

I grew up in a single-parent household for most of my life, and though I always felt a little different from my classmates and friends who had both their mothers and fathers at home, I never felt like we were not a family. I had friends who had complete sets of parents, who seemed whole on the outside but were very broken on the inside.

Growing up, I often wondered why my parents would do better in the world here on. Their years down the road. For friend drew really hard lines marked a difference.

I know now that there are many extraordinary families; my appears to be broken on the outside, but in reality have so much brokenness on the inside. It is a brokenness that consumes and has repercussions in succeeding generations. And there there are look-forwards on the surface suffer from the lack of one parent, but whose children are surrounded in love and blessed with respect and kindness, who turn

ROOTS AND WINGS

Cathy Babao-Cabello

out more whole.

I believe in having families together, but I also believe that brokenness needs to be addressed. Verbal and physical abuse, for one, must never be tolerated. In such situations, it is always advisable for the wounded party to take himself or herself away from the situation and heal from the injury, and that one's self must never falter in running and making sure that the abuser will no longer be tolerated.

Social philosophizing is another one of my passions. Once in September, because "We are in between" or "Ber months" as they say in the Philippines, I had to be the writing party to unveil his or her traps. Then it was month, and then it was well, you must have a pretty clear

A CHIHUAHUA contestant dons a dress for it's show.

HOW'BOUT YOU, DOG? Golden Gross Kansas hit his little musician Allan Wan in the Bibi Tim's guardian.

CEBU grand celebrity hyun Carmen and her pooch with costume

Until when can she hold off on intimacy?

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR EMILY,

I'm 28 years old, single and selfsome for a certain relationship.

I met this guy online, and he's different from the types I've previously met with. He's outrageously funny and sort of naughty. I like him because he's also attentive, sincere and we talk about lots of things. He demonstrate in he's organized, has responsible, and his marriage has not problems and issues.

My family supports me in online dates with someone they see for personal ed. He's not running much, but suppports his bills as much as he can. Sometimes I help him out when I can. Although he's financial aller me much, he's making me happy.

My sister and parents are against him, asking me how I could have gotten involved and notified for this kind of a person. Parents are correct in this, but when I'm with him, everything seems so right. We've become more close for three months now, and our relationship is getting deeper. I know he loves me, and I'm so inlovehim.

He wants us to be physical, really intimate now, but I'm not getting in. He says if I feel I will cope for like taking if I keep on seeing him. He says nothing will happen unless I allow him, but on all others can I hold off? Lol. Ang go of him will mean going back to my old, boring, sucking, which will destabilize make my person happy.

I like being with him, and expect more from this relationship. Should I let him go? His financial affairs as unresolved, then I cannot marry him. Or should I just enjoy what we are having now and let this relationship take our inherent course?

CRAZY IN LOVE

What your parents and sister are saying is true...but you think I got this old just to write letters of joy? It looks like a puzzle to you too...but the truth hurts! What they're actually saying is, marry you're head over heels with this guy, but is he for the long haul, or are you going to waste your time with someone unworthy to be waiting?

You were joked that you're "ripe" for "this." What exactly are you ripe for...sex? Until he's married...like a natural desire? Do not engage in sinful, long-term or breaking-up!

In God's what's driving you crazy...being giddy about this emotional guy and not being able to do anything about it? Denying urgent hormones, but being worldly constrained and mentally handcuffed by your parents' admonitions? If 30 year old virgin caught in a stupid one he can't control, then you're immature and his reasons, love and lust are equal feelings!

Lessons believe that hasty happiness will last for ever. It doesn't even matter to you that your boyfriend has an unstable source of income at this stage in your relationship. You'll want to break it aside and think you can live on air and water after, as long as you can see him!

So go for it, do it, get it over with and ruin your carnal urge...if this will make you rational again; if it will close your love-logged heart; if it will settle you to marry or your sanity and put your head back on your shoulders and for the thinking, sensible woman you can never.

Better go for the short one night now and satisfy this hunger, instead of going through so much misery. It will only for up your desire for such other and push you to devise some sinister, most cleansing plan that could make the night future you have spiral time and misery preparing for. Better now, before you silly urges for lude for yourself and regret your sin. Be still, be thoughtful.

The disciplines and the sound brigade will hang our upside down for giving you that advice! To clear minds in existing, there's a line in the Bible I am paraphrasing: "You've already sinned! Just thinking about it!"

When you're unnecessarily resting it on your raging hormones, find the time to think about your future and set yourself! If you really want your life, which basically is still rational and matured, mixed up with this guy's screwed up life. There are the links to happen, as we still have a child to think, a residence of real locations in your mind!

How many unwanted undesirable you have to child shake their heads seeing you there every years, and desperately waiting for him to change their thoughts/lifestyle?

If you're already ripe for whatever it is you're thinking, just make sure you have all your reasons in your feet or you do what it is you're saying to do. This is the assistance and reminiscence you're relating to you. The devil is still might turn out to be way before your expectations. Don't let you open carnal and, good or bad, change every thing to experience.

As your parents have said, you're old enough to settle to a life of your own decisions.

Email your autobiography at emily.marcelo@gmail.com...Subject: Help!

to be a 'family'

good reasons for staying and setting that kind of example for your children. Time to mind that unless you break down, parents tend to run to families, because we always do down and unwanted to what is familiar.

So yes, families come in all forms, shapes, and sizes, and society needs to be more sensitive and receptive to these changes. Classes on sensitivity and tolerance for families in transition need to be taught; peer support and counseling for children of LDW parents can be very helpful.

Children need to be made to understand that the loss is never their fault. When a child feels loved and secure despite the lack of one parent, they will grow up to become resilient, more compassionate and wise individuals because early on, they have learned that it is not loss and homes that make a family.

In transition

For families "in transition"...that period when you are changing from one marital status to another, whether temporarily or for good...open communication is very important so that children can safely navigate that difficult time when their parents split.

For LDW families, the advent of technology and all the many ways that people can keep in touch have made staying in close contact so much easier. There's simply no reason any more for a parent who works overseas not to make contact his or her children on a regular basis or to be absent.

My daughter has an analogy for families in transition. "Having Lego blocks (you," she says. "Even if there are some pieces lost or missing, they are always new ways of fitting the pieces together, such that the end result is still a beautiful house or other structure or wonderful general."

Children have an innate sense to give a sense to safely express what they feel inside. Let them sense if they want, and listen to them because all feelings are valid.

A transition can be a sensitive and difficult period because of the changes and emotions brought about by the loss or pending loss of one parent. Children must be provided with kindness, patience, understanding, and sympathy.

We love navigate the sometimes stormy seas where children are aware in the knowledge that we are in the best with them, helping them come out of they safely get to shore. And whether the boat has both a runaway and a daddy, just a scrap or just a scrap, it can still be called family.

The Jollibee Family Values Awards, a nationwide search for families who exemplify positive Filipino values and family traditions, is now accepting their deeds, is ongoing until Aug. 31. The contest is open to all Filipino families with residence in the Philippines. Nominations for our real exclusive page be found at the Jollibee website, www.jollibee.com.ph.

Email the author at emily.lederal@gmail.com Or Twitter @emily.lederal

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MEGAMALL
mega dine!
ENDLESS DINING DISCOVERIES REVEALED ONE BITE AT A TIME BY TWO INCURABLE FOODIES, CASSIE AND DINO

Lasagale's PAD THAI

AUG 19

What I appreciate about lasagale is that not only does it replicate the memorable quality of the street food, it also retains the affordability. There are few better deals in town than this hearty, authentic Pad Thai (Only P140 mistakes) that the addition of crushed peanuts elevated into The national dish to perfection.)

Sparo Jane's SPAM BURGER

AUG 15

"Sino," I teased, "our friendship hideout a smoke more than we've made it through high school, second touch after our childhood, then reunited when we were adults." It's like falling in...one bite of this burger, and those memories come flooding back.

SM Supermarket DELI

AUG 15

I love...they have an extensive selection of cheeses and cold cuts, but my favorite is the gourmet sausages section, where I buy my weekly stash of Italian, Cajun, Chorizo, and Schweiz. It's comforting to know that I have, in the freezer, such a quick and satisfying snack fix.

Mexicali's BURRITO

AUG 8

The dishes—a hybrid of Northern California and Mexican street food—are just plain fun. No prizes for guessing my favorite here in Mexicali; my even popular food trip outside to the restaurant reshaped to a one liter.

Eat and Go's LONDON PIE

AUG 6

"It's true!" I told Dino, "For six months in high school, I was an exchange student and I lived on the east end of London." My "foster family" introduced me to London Pies...which is why I have a soft spot for this authentic taste treaty that served the traditional English soft pastry in four different fillings.

Free Delivery within Megamall for minimum spend of P1,000. For more information, please call 911-1111

About Us

Hello, my name is Cassie, and I'm never not a taste I don't like, which accounts for my inexhaustible delights of 207 Megamall, to much, my Buddha Counter me accumulate of an authentic tastes in 811 nights to create "Kitchen show, that! That, two years ago, I recommended with this, my childhood best friend, "Cassie," for school reunion, which is a kid, he was afraid to attend, "don't you see that there are just so many dining restaurants here as there are shopping ones?" I said before him, hundred. Then began our 130 doggie-bull food adventures. Since then, Dino and I have dedicated our free time to encountering the latest restaurants, cafés, dessert bars, and food trucks here in SM Megamall—there are so many, it's turning out to be a full-time gig. Along the way, we've also created short videos and shared our memories. Hope you enjoy our chronicles of it. I write, he photographs.

Restaurant list

NATASHA
(02) 631 1111
Upper Ground Floor,
SM Megamall Building A

SAMA-SAMA
(02) 941 8371
2/F SM Megamall
Building A

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SUPERMARKET DELI
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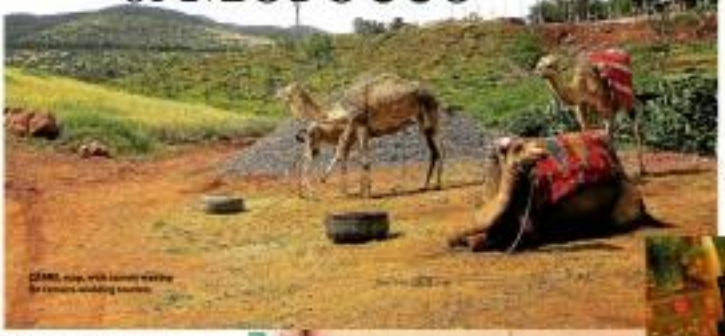
Upper Ground Floor,
SM Megamall Building A

MEXICALI
(02) 631 8571
Upper Ground Floor,
SM Megamall Building A

EAT AND GO
(02) 631 8556
2/F Mega Atrium
eatandgo.ph

Breathing in the magic of Morocco



CAMEL rule, with camels waiting for camera-wielding tourists

GIANT ceramic jars and huge glass lamps pointed up by merchants

LAMPS, rugs, brassware, popular high-end goods in Medina

Text and photos by Riley M. Custodio
Cover Feature

SITTING at the northwestern corner of the African continent, with the Strait of Gibraltar separating it from Spain, is the kingdom of Morocco, ruled by a king with such vast executive powers he can dissolve parliament and issue decrees that have the force of law.

Its population is over 32 million, its political capital is Rabat, and its largest city is Casablanca. It is comparable to California in mileage. Every Moroccan can speak either Berber or Moroccan Arabic. French is the foreign language most spoken, but otherwise, Moroccans appear to be very nationalistic and proud of their ancestry.

The best-known city is Casablanca, setting of the vintage romantic films of the same title starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, although none of the scenes was ever shot there.

We had long been fascinated by Morocco, but because we knew absolutely nothing about it, and second, because Filipinos appeared to be inordinately privileged not to be required a visa for as long as 90 days, while our Asean neighbors Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Burma, Brunei, Laos and Vietnam need to fall in line for one.

We found nothing in our history, past or present, that would link us to this country, and it was the strangeness, plus its being part of the African continent, that made us all the more want to go and visit it.

We are told, however, by our Madrid-based friend Richard Ingasy who has been to Morocco innumerable times, that if we only had time to visit one city in Morocco, it should be Marrakech. He took Richard's advice and prepared for the trip with customary fervor. Richard had a full schedule of teaching and could not accompany us.

Fortunately we had as travel companions journalist Ronald Constantino and jewelry designer Marlon Pedregosa to share in our doubts and fears. Marlon, the experienced traveler among us, got us cheap tickets on Emirates and booked us for four days at the Hotel Opal Marrakech, part of a modern chain, yet proudly displaying décor from its artisans.

The location was close to the walled city deep call the Medina, as once we could just walk in and today find a KFC eatery, and was as comforting as it was distressing.

Heart of the city

Marrakech has two parts... the historic old city called the Medina, and the new district called Ville Nouvelle or New Town. Most visitors proceed to the Medina with its narrow passageways and shops, its local color, residents in full regalia, and the perception of danger that every unfamiliar culture strongly offers as magnet to the more adventurous.

HOODED Muslim women before they noticed the camera

Most visitors proceed to the Medina, with its narrow passageways and shops, its local color, residents in full regalia, and the perception of danger that every unfamiliar culture strongly offers

AUTHOR at Silk Barbar workshops of organic products

Clearly, the Medina is the throbbing heart of Marrakech, a sprawling combination of humanity that can be disconcerting, as Moroccans are not as welcoming as we Pinoys are to foreigners.

They have custom inestimably raising pressure of those without as much as a by-your-leave. They would swear in their native tongue at the slightest hauteur, and it didn't matter that he was buying a whole bagful of their goodies. That just isn't part of the bar-

LUNCH in Ourika Valley with Ronald, Marlon and driver Omar; everything made in Morocco displayed at the Medina

gain.

Otherwise, one can find in the Medina a flea market that would put Divisoria to shame. Everything, mostly handmade in Morocco and other African kingdoms, can be found, from clothes, bags, metalwork and glass blown lamps, to carved knick-knacks, small and loud. You name it, they have it, and at unbelievably cheap prices.

But Marrakech is other sights and places, as well. It is history and culture, and those we are advised to see by private cab. Our cab driver Omar spoke English, and knew his country's history like the back of his hand.

Marrakech was founded in 1061 AD by the Almoravid dynasty that ruled much of Africa then, and what is now Spain and Portugal. Almost a century after, the Almoravids would be overtaken by the Berber Muslim Almohad Dynasty, who encouraged creativity from Arabic poets, philosophers and scholars.

After the fall of the Almohads, Marrakech was taken over by the French from 1912-1956. This is why today, most everyone speaks French or their native tongue, and only those in the tourist industry learn English.

A day trip outside Marrakech would cost $100, which includes car, fuel, driver, normal entrance fees and lunch. One leaves the hotel at 9 a.m. and returns at 6 p.m. after the 40-km round trip. Driver Omar agrees to the rates, but does so one better by not balking on his air-conditioning non-function. We had been warned about these drivers, so we are not really surprised.

Otherwise, Omar's itinerary is acceptable, although it removes the expected touristy route with items for sale otherwise are engaged, where Omar earns a commission.

Valleys and waterfalls

The Ourika Valley is a string of villages 30 km south of Marrakech where the landscape along a river is fresh, green, and cool even in the hottest summer. Spring would be the best choice for the traveler. The road gradually rises into the Atlas and it ended in Setti Fatma, famous for its seven waterfalls, after which would be mountains difficult to trek, Omar tells us.

We are first brought to what we call the camel stop, where tourists are expected to take pictures. Then we visit a cooperative of women, Le Coin Berbere, where old women share with young Berber mothers how to make organic cosmetic products.

We buy samplings of rosehip-oil, musk- and rose-flavored perfumed oil that local shamans studying in nearby universities have come up with. We buy tea leaves, lip balm, soaps, herbal body scrubs, wrinkle creams, massage oil and body lotion. Less than a kilometer away, we visit a garden where they grow the sources of these products. This was a most enjoyable stop where we saw no tourists.

But find a word about the Berbers. They are an ethnic group with a common heritage, language, culture, and ancestry. Omar tells us that the first Berbers in Morocco came from Yemen. Perhaps he did, but today's Berbers speaking people live in Morocco, Algeria, Libya and Tunisia.

For lunch, Omar brings us to a riverside restaurant where the delicious set meal is served along with refreshments and local entertainment. We are now ready to visit a Berber home four generations old. more to

Breathing in the magic of Morocco

BUSY day at the Medina grounds with street dancers in costume

BERBER family head by the parents' eldest in Dades Valley

MAJORELLE Garden, contribution of the French to Marrakesh

From page E6

people live in a house of stones from the mountains put together with clay, paint and wishes.

We speak with the head of the family; we take a tour around the home; we take pictures. It seems so unreal. Obviously because we are tourists and there is a regular stop for tourists, we experience some of the shocking setup in the Medina, which actually was rather disappointing.

We are back home at the agreed time, with mixed feelings about the day's proceedings. We felt we had been given an authentic enough taste of life in the barrios, one that displayed the Berbers's use of nature as a partner to be respected and not to be abused, and their ability to utilizing these gifts to maintain a livelihood.

But on the same time, we felt that contrived institutions had been edified. They were not polite. They posed for pictures yet did not smile. We ask ourselves what was the better question—this obedient provincial dweller, or that of the proud, boisterous Medina merchants who stood his ground? Really, our choice was the latter.

The next day, we go on our own, taking a cab to the Museo of El Badii and Jardin Majorelle.

Richard had wanted us not to waste our money on El Badii, which means Incomparable Palace, but we didn't listen. He was right. The palace contains ninety-six of the remnants of an original built in 1578 which took 25 years to construct, until was torn apart by another Sultan who used the materials to decorate his new palace in Meknes.

Greatest work

Jardin Majorelle, on the other hand, is a joy to visit. Opened by French painter Jacques Majorelle in 1947, it is now considered his greatest work, with the abundance of vegetal shapes and figures. Its use of accents, in a palette of colors from nature. When Jacques died, the famous fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent acquired the property, restoring it to its original beauty. It is a must on anyone's itinerary.

Of course, we, too, had to take a look at modern Marrakech at the Ville Nouvelle that crept from its modern restaurants, upscale brands to fashion boutiques along Mohammed V and Zerktouni, after which we sat in a cafe drinking coffee and finding the environment so artificial and boring. Avoid Laconte, McDonald's, Kingpin Dixit and the ubiquitous KFC, we decide to return to the hotel.

Before leaving for the airport, we felt a need to visit the Medina once again to say goodbye. No longer did we feel threatened by their covered faces. We took out the shop keeper who knew exactly what we needed. And we knew how exactly why Richard returns again and again. We stood in the plaza to breathe in its peculiar potion. A breath—till we meet again.

Bar Joaquin, e-mail: easyon@mnilbj.com.ph/com; Ryad Majodor Hotel, e-mail: ryadrakech@ryadmajodor.com; Palais Gourmande restaurant in the Medina, tel. +212(0)524399213; Shop Fnaire Amraui 8 Mohamed, tel. (0670611802; Shop Atlas Cadeaux, tel. (0670204417; Jardin Majorelle, tel. +(212)2443 13047.

E-mail the author at tdayson@gmail.com.

How to have a truly French weekend in Manila

Travel Briefs

ZELUBRATE A weekend au French at Sofitel Philippine Plaza until Aug. 30. Overnight accommodation rate is from P6,370+, inclusive of breakfast at Spiral for two, and complimentary room upgrade while supplies last.

Savor French street dining at Fleur Level Lounge as Head Chef Jean Luc Boutolleau of Bistro Arcos, Bistro Mesquite and Le Cafe de Can Pizza bars takes guests on blissful culinary journeys amid an exotic Moulin Rouge-inspired setting.

At Spiral, mouthwatering fare gets lovers free daily for lunch and dinner. Pair with the finest in old or new world wines from Spiral to prolific wine cellar for a heightened French experience. Sip off your au French days as you witness Sofitel's dramatic Gentle Rain, at just five minutes daily at 11 a.m., along with Sofitels around the world.

French nationals get 10 percent off the buffet rate at Spiral this August, and may bring up to six guests. A valet passport at P2k is to be presented to avail of the promo. Lounge at Le Bar and enjoy the sweet indulgence of a fresh oyster with a perfectly chilled glass of champagne Margaux, available daily at P888+. Or enjoy a bottle of champagne Margaux and get a complimentary bottle. Rate set at P4,888+.

Treat yourself to one delicious(ly smooth) at Le Spa, where the refined French touch meets the warmth of Filipino hospitality. Choose from relaxing services, including the Brazilian max. More ave to Philippe for Spiral's La Saison and all French celebrity stylist Philippe Kardjoian and he have guamper and primp you.

A long weekend au French awaits at Manila's only 5-star luxury resort hotel. Accor Advantage Plus members get an additional 10 percent off.

Call 5510000 local 1891 to 1894, or e-mail at accor.reservations@sofitel-manila.com.

Great deal at the south's newest luxury hotel

Acacia Hotel Manila, the newest five-star luxury hotel to rise in the premiere commercial and business district of Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, announces its soft opening on Sept. 8.

To celebrate, the hotel is offering a 1 + 1 buffet deal for lunch and dinner from Monday to Friday at its Acacia restaurant for the whole month of September. Opening together with Acacia Tower at the Lobby followed by the gastronomic fare in the south.

Acacia Hotel Manila is surrounded by residential areas, shopping centers, firms and establishments. The Skyway and South Super Highway are conveniently a few minutes away making it accessible for travellers.

All 262 guest rooms including suites are designed and equipped with modern day amenities. For those fastest-paying the more exclusively, access to the hotel's executive lounge Penaba is a must.

Its food and beverage outlets will not disappoint. Diners at the Lobby lounge will relax dining lounge perfect for both casual and business meetings. Acacia, located on the very top mezzanine and surrounded by glass windows, will offer sumptuous buffets of both local and international faves plus an a la carte menu of Pan Asian cuisine.

The hotel will offer a wide array of services for corporate and social gatherings. It has one grand ballroom, six function rooms, and a beautiful outdoor terrace for intimate events.

Acacia Hotel Manila is the first hotel venture of Corporate Holdings Management Incorporated (CHMI).

Through its subsidiary CHMI Hotels and Resorts Inc. The flagship property is their response to the growing demand for more hotel accommodation in the south.

Call (02)2000 or 8888888 or e-mail enquiry@acaciahotelmanila.com; follow on Facebook at Acacia Hotel Manila and Twitter at Acacia Hotel.

MEGAMALL

mega dine

ENDLESS DINING DISCOVERIES REVEALED ONE BITE AT A TIME BY TWO INCURABLE FOODIES, CASSIE AND DINO

Yum Huat's YOGURT 'N' TOPPINGS

MAY 2

I know yogurt is overlit, but both of us are fans of restaurants, and is great for your digestion but all I really do care about is that this ice bowl chain has nearly one yummy yogurt flavor for every week of the year! And these don't get me started about the countless combinations of chocolate, candy, cereal, and fruit toppings...

Brick House's GELATO POPSICLE

MAY 3

"Cassie," soon-to-be Dino, "come with me. This is not your ordinary popsicle." I blinked on the coupon on a lever. "Choose your gelato flavor. Then it dipped in either white or milk chocolate. Then sprinkle with almonds, hazelnuts, pistachios, or waffles." I suddenly feel weak in the knees...

Chewy in's ASSORTED CREAM PUFFS

MAY 7

As one may already know from reading this blog, my friend Dino once worked in Singapore. It was inevitable, I suppose, that he'd bring one day about how the city-state's Chewy in cream puffs are baked, not fried. Bone-off...they're terrific, not to mention unbelievably healthy.

Seattle's Best's MOCHA AMARELLA SHAKE

MAY 29

Seattle's Best calls it the "world's best coffee milkshake." Hmm, they sure make a strong case. This drink is refreshing on hot days, reassuring on rainy ones. I love how it's sweet, but not overpowering; so, just how berries get this blend exactly right each time, which is no small accomplishment.

Le Coeur De France's FRUIT TARTS

MAY 27

The French, as their classic ingredient request for baking, understand that the best recipes over their number to improve to detail, which, how these day, time-sized edition manage to feel so indulgent

About us

Hello, my name is Cassie, and I've never met a sushi I didn't like, which obviously means I'm no blogger to the mahalo-ahha delights of SM Megamall in style, my buddies consider me somewhat of an authority [note] on this mighty shopping complex. Then, two years ago, I reconnected with Dino, my childhood best friend. "Cassie," he asked innocently (even as a kid, he was always so serious), "don't you say that there are just so many dining restaurants here so there are shopping ones?" I stood before him, humbled. That began our SM Megamall food adventures. Since then, Dino and I have dedicated our free time to scouring the latest restaurants, cafés, dessert bars, and food kiosks here in SM Megamall—there are so many, it's turning us to be a full-time gig. Along the way, we've reminisced about old times... and created new memories. Hope you enjoy our chronicles of it. I guess, by photographs.

Restaurant list

TUTTI FRUTTI
(02) 633 3443
4/F Mega Atrium
at SM Megamall

STICK HOUSE
(02) 470 0808
Lower Ground Floor,
Old Megamall Building A

CHEWY IN
(02) 584 8873
Lower Ground Floor,
Old Megamall Building A

SEATTLE'S BEST
(02) 584 2666
SM Megamall
Megadrive A

LE COEUR DE FRANCE
(02) 687 3865
Lower Ground Floor,
Old Megamall Building A

Suite specials at Discovery Suites

DISCOVERY SUITES, the premier serviced residence located in the heart of the Ortigas Business District, recently introduced the Serendipity Suites.

"Serendipity Suites targets corporate guests and frequent individual travellers who desire enhanced levels of hospitality," says general manager Bobby Rodrigo.

The Serendipity Suites are junior, one-bedroom and three-bedroom suites on three specially dedicated floors. Singapore-based Maja Design Group was tasked to design the concept.

Each level features check-in and check-out assistance, one-hour use of the boardroom, a pre-scheduled housekeeping session at Balance L Facial & Fitness Center, preferred rates at Discovery Country Suites and Discovery Primea Condominium, P500 discount voucher to the exclusive Terra Wellness Spa, daily newspaper delivery, and access to the Serendipity Lounge.

Rates for a Junior Suite Deluxe start at P5,900++ and Junior Suite Premiere start at P6,000++. Call (7989833.122, 7989888, 9144888), e-mail or visit Discovery suites.ph.

Super8 treats from Boracay Regency

Beach lovers are in for an unbeatable treat in store as Boracay Regency Beach Resort and Spa, a luxury retreat delivered at Hawaiian House Inc, the first to join its stylish brand in the long beach of Boracay, is giving away special discounts on the 23rd Philippine Travel Mart Sept. 3-4 at the SMX Convention Center, 2nd Mall of Asia Complex in Pasay City.

Customers can avail of the resort's multi-night room packages and enjoy a further 25-percent discount. Experience their world-class beach and beauty of the entire island as you spend a relaxing but delightful stay in the resort's refreshingly contemporary daily breakfast, hotel-wide dinner, and round-trip land and sea transfers via Caticlan for as low as P5,888 per person.

The magnificent ocean facing 286 luxurious guest rooms and suites in three wings with stunning views of the sea, pool, resort or garden. It boasts of 120-m beach front, state-of-the-art convention center that can accommodate over 1,000 persons, and a luxurious, Asian-inspired spa that has an array of excellent massages and treatments, among others. Come each of the Korean Resorts favorite booth during the event to avail of these special deals.

Your passport to Boracay is loaded with perks

Discovery Shores offers guests an exclusive Passport to Indulgence, a privilege pass to Boracay island's unparalleled events, with remarkable discounts and special perks.

Your Passport to Indulgence begins the moment you arrive at the Caticlan airport, where you are met with personalized service. Standard for all Discovery Shores guests is the round-trip boat and land transfers and "express" check-in for non-group bookings.

Partner establishments include Discovery Shores' very own beach Restaurant and lobby Counter Cuisine, certain bars, and limited beverage outlets such as Bibo Cantina Bata, Bamboo Lounge, Cafe Del Sol, Cyma Greek Taverna, Filing Frozen Yogurt, Fruits in Ice Cream, Jimmy Juggernut Burgers, Mandarina Bistro, Mr. I Love Barbecue Barbecue, Real Boy Lucio Tric, Sabado Bistro, Redbeard, The Cafe Mediterranean, The Courtyard Bistro, Tiffinz Inspired and French Bistro, and Yuhabi Boracay restaurant bar, craft on Epic Boracay, Juice Bar, and Island Bar, beauty and pampering at Beauty Bistro, Kortyard, Camille Beauty Salon, Terra Wellness Spa Boracay, and Thalgo, Tao Refinery, and Victor Ortega Salon & Spa, and shops such as Island Discovery, Golden Sandbox, and Nothing But Water.

Nakeha an editor with Team Manila of online, the Passport to Indulgence may also be availed beyond the island's shores at select establishments in Manila.

Call 7288888 or 2884000 or e-mail [illegible] or visit discoveryshores.com.ph.

BY JOY ROJAS

What do you want to do with your money?

Ask 10 random people this question and you'll get answers as one-of-a-kind as the individuals themselves. Indeed, whether you're a Manila-based executive with children studying abroad, a seasoned entrepreneur eager to expand your successful business, a young couple eyeing a dream home in a high-rise condominium, or the grand prize winner of the Mega Lotto, money management is a personal decision that depends solely on your unique needs and goals. Still, with the vast options on what to do with your money available out there, this much is certain: everyone wants their wealth managed with simplicity, speed, efficiency and expertise.

At HSBC, Premier clients enjoy the privileges of having their personal finances handled by a banking institution that believes in living life without boundaries. Premier clients are assigned to a dedicated relationship manager (RM), a trained and accredited expert who can explain and offer services and products suitable to your specific financial needs.

Additionally, HSBC covers all the bases of wealth management. Besides taking care of your day-to-day banking transactions (from simple deposits and withdrawals to applying for a loan), and your family's individual banking needs, your personal wealth and global banking needs are also looked after.

Wealth management made easy

No matter what your money plans, HSBC will manage your finances with a life-without-boundaries mindset

While the simplest and most common desire for one's wealth is to see it grow (HSBC Asset Link, for one, allows you to leverage your deposits and investments while enabling the continuous growth of your money), Premier clients may also opt to protect their wealth and, eventually, distribute it. Both are possible through HSBC Insurance Brokers, an affiliate which extends the kind of products and services that ensure the utmost in efficiency and convenience for you and the people who matter most in your life.

Clearly the most exciting element of HSBC's wealth management is its ability to assist you outside of the Philippines. "As the most international of all banks, with 87 HSBC branches and over 17,000 HSBC ATMS available overseas, our ability to serve you wherever you may be in what ears as apart," avers Patrick D. Cheng, president and CEO of HSBC Savings Bank (Phils.), Inc.

Patrick D. Cheng, president and CEO of HSBC Savings Bank (Phils.), Inc.

A global safety net, if you will, instantly protects Premier clients no matter where they are. A lost or stolen HSBC Premier Mastercard can be replaced in as quickly as five days, and emergency cash of up to US$2,000 accessible even sooner, through the 24/7 hotline +(63) (2) 85-800 or the toll free +1908 8FREMEP). Even the uncertainty of relocating to another country becomes a seamless transition. "One of the hardest things about going abroad is that you don't know anybody," acknowledges Cheng. "So you have no credit history. To help get you started, we can assist you in opening an account, and we can transfer your credit history from the Philippines to the country you're moving to so you can be recognized and assisted by the HSBC branch there."

As the improving economy has not only allowed us to expand our wealth, but to enjoy it to the fullest, it's a comfort to know that we can count on a bank like HSBC to look after our finances and support our plans for them. "The best service we offer," declares Cheng, "is to first understand you and your needs."

Sunday LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Long live long weekends! /D1

Multivitamins • Minerals • Ginseng • Royal Jelly • Standardized Panax Ginseng
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Take Regin-E, the only multivitamin that combines Ginseng for endurance, Ginkgo for mental potency and Royal Jelly for vitality
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How denying one's self leads us back to our authentic core

First, a healthy sense of self-possession; one cannot give and offer what one does not have

By Fr. Tito Caluag
Contributor

THIS YEARS ago I was wrapping up my process of what is more popularly known as midlife crisis. This was a two-year, painful journey that started in 1999.

The term or the phenomenon "midlife crisis" was coined in 1965 by Elliott Jaques to describe "a period of dramatic self-doubt ... triggered by transitions experienced. The result may be a desire to make significant changes in the core aspects of day-to-day life or relation."

Although some have questioned the phenomenon, I think it is safe to say that we do come to certain points in our life when we may, maybe and or must, to put it simply

Key guide

In one of my last re-integration or catch-up sessions with my spiritual director, the late Fr. Benny Calpotura, S.J., he told me something which I think has influenced my life since then and guided many moments of key decisions thereafter.

"You now come to a point of a very important choice, maybe the most important choice. You need to choose whether you will center the core of your relationship with Christ or stay in the periphery," he told me.

He took kept quiet for a while. I felt a tinge of warm energy flowing through my entire body. Then Fr. Benny continued, "Some choose to stay in the periphery and never really live life to the full. But when you choose to center the core of your relationship with Christ, it is always creating the journey of the

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SAN Guillermo's hall-notable

LAS Casas Filipinas house ex-cibis

ANOTHER LAS Casas Filipinas house

Bird-watching, diving, heritage-touring —siblings bond from Bacolor to Bataan

By Carlos Santos-Ynig
Contributor

AGING, ACTIVE work life does not necessarily have to lead to a boring retirement. One certainly is blessed with the outcome of close-knit families, scenic and historical places accessible to everyone, young and old alike.

My senior citizen sisters Stella Fuentes, Rachel Gomez and Bobbie, and I recently took off for Bagac, Bataan. Keeping our itinerary loose, we didn't choose sites to see other than our final destination. Everyone was free to suggest a place to visit as long as it was along the way.

San Guillermo

For the past years, having passed through (our ideal Garcia Avenue (San Fernando, Pampanga) en route to Subic, we wouldn't help but notice seventeen half-buried in Jesus, a church in Bacolor, Pampanga, most prominent among them).

The church of San Guillermo was built in the late 1500s by Augustinian friars. This original structure collapsed in an earthquake in the 19th Century, but the community was resolute and rebuilt it in six years.

After the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption, lahar and flood waters buried more than half of the church and the nearby town, forcing the communities to abandon the area.

When the people returned, they removed only the topmost part of the church, leaving the rest buried.

Bacolor's wood carving shops line San Jose (Real Garcia) Avenue, displaying unabashed religious statues and other church ornaments that beautifully adorn San Guillermo church.

Tortuga

We drove on to Bataan, enjoying the leisurely drive and scenic vistas. A new Lubao bypass road is now in place, sparing travelers from perennial traffic delays.

Because my sisters are fond of bird-watching, we decided to drop by the town of Balanga to search a glimpse of Tortuga Nature Park.

Located east of Balanga (on the north-south-west shores of Manila Bay), the Tortuga ecotourist site has been an essential stop for wintering shorebirds and water birds such as the Chinese egret, Grey heron, Whiskered Tern.

The Philippines is one of the important flyways of the East Asian-Australasian migratory birds from the Arctic Circle to Russia and Alaska. The birds stop to feed in our wetlands from September to March on their way to Australia and New Zealand.

Although the birds had already left when we dropped by the park, we were at least thankful that the area was not as polluted as the eastern coastal Las Piñas-Bacoor-Imus lagoon, where the shorebirds are at the mercy of pollutants emanating from the garbage and contaminated waters from nearby urban communities.

We promised to return to the Tortuga park.

Kilometer Zero

In Bagac, we briefly stopped at a small junction marked by a historical marker. This was one of the two Kilometer Zero (marking points) markers of the World War II Bataan Death March.

The other marker is in Mariveles, where the gruesome journey first started. Survivors then trekked the railroad to San Fernando, Pampanga, and finally to the concentration camp in Capas, Tarlac.

Formerly called Camp O'Donnell, the camp is now the site of the Capas National Shrine. The Bataan Death March routes are memorialized with distinct kilometer markers.

Montemar Eco-Beach

Barring to hit the beach of Bagac, we raced in Montemar Beach Club. Since my last visit in the mid-'80 years ago, Montemar has grown more developed, with modern facilities and stunning structures.

A pawikan (turtle) conservation area has also been added, in line with the club's commitment to save local turtles such as the Olive Ridley, Green and Hawksbill species.

Bagac's wide stretch of sandy beaches brimming the clear Bataan-Philippine Sea (South China Sea) is a natural home for these marine species.

LAS Guillermo side windows

Keeping their itinerary loose, they had simple and awesome surprises

ANCHOR at private house in Las Casas Filipinas

PEACHE Gomez, Bobbie Santos-Ynig, Stella Fuentes, Beying Sy at La Marea

JUVENILE green turtle

SHRINE of Victor Cross

KILOMETER 0, Bagac

LAS Casas Filipinas interiors

Several species of birds feed and play among the sweet tall and lush foliage. Grasshoppers were: Black Naped Oriolee, Chestnut Munias, Collared Kingfishers, Bee-eaters and Great Egrets.

After we'll hop down in our cottage, we took a hearty lunch at the Chalet La Marea (since, according to conjectures, remains of Filipino and Spanish dishes like the ensaimadang sorrong manok (chicken tocino cooked in sinigang broth with young tamarind leaves and flowers) and the Bacha del Mucos (the house's Spanish-style rice).

Las Casas Filipinas

We then drove to a nearby heritage resort, Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar (The Filipino Houses of Acuzar).

Named after builder Jose Acuzar, whose passion is saving Filipino ancestral houses from total destruction, this resort-cum-hotel has a collection of authentic 18th and 19th century Bahay-na-Bato and wooden silk houses from all over the country.

The buildings are built around a cobblestone plaza and streets resembling an old town in the Spanish era. Each of the structures was disassembled, transported and rebuilt close to their original sites.

A few of the structures can be entered, with air-conditioned bedrooms, furnished living and dining rooms, upgraded toilet and baths.

Acuzar's current projects involve building replicas of other historical houses and the addition of traditional resort facilities to an adjacent lot.

Disc corals

The next day, we rented a banca and went snorkeling in a nearby reef. Reluctant at first, my youngest sister, Bobbie, finally agreed to snorkel with us. Although the corals seemed intact, there were not too many resident fish other than the usual juvenile parrot and surgeon fishes.

But what was unique was the abundance of lavender disc corals growing like cabbage patches alongside frog horn corals. Most unique was the presence of numerous Crown-of-Thorns starfishes grazing on the reef's coral polyps.

We spent the remainder of the day swimming in Montemar's crystal-clear water, and enjoyed the warm weather on the beach, playing frisbee, trying out the beach paddle board and kite flying.

As the evening approached, we watched the amber sunset and the egrets fly back to their nesting trees on a nearby hill.

Mt. Samat

The next day we headed back to Manila, with a final stop at the Bataan-to-Angeles (Shrine of Valour) memorial. Six metres above sea level within the 180,000 acres of the Mt. Samat National Park. This site was supposedly the last stronghold of the Battle of Bataan during the World War II.

Completed in 1970, the complex consists of a cruciform esplanade and a memorial cross. Leading to the esplanade are steps where on top rises a pole flying the Philippine flag flanked by two huge bronze cross.

Inside the esplanade is six stair against three stained glass panels designed by artist Ernest Rivera. The esplanade's lower walls are embellished with Napoleon dioramic relief sculpture showing the images of the war and bronze insignias of the United States Armed Forces in the Far East (USAFFE) division units. Under the esplanade is a small museum exhibiting reproduction photos of the war, small weaponry and memorabilia.

The white marble-lined cross towers 92 metres high with arms spanning 15 meters on each side, which serve as viewing decks. Its base is decorated with Rivera's relief sculptures depicting images of historical people and events.

Mt. Samat is cool and quite windy, especially on the viewing gallery where the panoramic vista of Mt. Samat, Bataan, Pampanga, Manila Bay and victorious leaves one breathless.

Escapade

Although most of its rural landscape seems to be lightly populated, Bataan has surely moved forward after the war. Apart from its agriculture, it has industrial parks, economic zones, an oil refinery, and other notable industries.

There are many other worthwhile sites to see in Bataan, such as the Bataan memorial site and Church of Balanga, St. Michael's Church built in the 1600's in Orion, Mt. Tarak in Mariveles, the anchor island in Morong, the Mariveles seawall in Alwang.

We continued our trip home with a last snack stop at Bataan's in San Fernando. Taste-wise, Bataan's and polished upwind was the cherry on top of our Bataan escapade.

How denying one's self

Please page 21

Grace and Resurrection."

The mystery of the Cross and Resurrection, the Paschal Mystery, the central mystery of our Christian faith. This is the mystery—or the invitation—that confronts us in this Sunday's Gospel. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Denying the self is very often associated with penance and sacrifice. I fully agree with this, and even as a teacher, I believe self-denial and sacrifice are important virtues young people must and can positively embrace. In the '90s, this was known as delayed gratification, as popularized by the emotional intelligence framework. Another way of looking at it is through Nietzsche's famous line, "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

My belief in this important stage in the development and formation of our children is not, however, as a young teacher feeds out of college. I see this from both a very economic and macho way a you, and me against the world. um, make that makes one lose what you push them to and, with acutely resolve, grow things done.

Tempered view

Later on, as a principal, I became more tempered. My view softened to a sense of toughness, which I believed we did in high school, balanced by care and compassion. It became clearer to me that self-denial and sacrifice does not of love is the only way to do it for the healthy development and betterment of a person. Otherwise, you end up developing or turning dysfunctional people.

After years of priestly ministry, I have come to see this self-denial as very much part of the Eucharist. "In doing oneself, one must know and possess oneself; one must be aware of who one is, and as I would say, why one is—our favorite terms, identity and mission. It is only then that one can "deny" oneself and offer One cannot give and offer what one does not have, it besides means of self-possession is what allows the denying of oneself that the Lord talks about in the Gospel.

The choice is entire the core of our relationship with Christ is this moment of denying oneself and taking up our cross.

Without pleading over the life-saving grace of the pain and suffering that comes with taking up our cross, allow me to view this from a more holistic perspective. Let me look back to the self-possession necessary to get to denying of oneself.

Dangers

In my seminars and sessions, I always point out the danger of spiritualizing. How often have we gone to an extreme and experience a spiritual high? Then, when we get to the realities of the day-to-day, we soon see the high disappear. That is why there is wisdom in dealing with the psychological issues first, and then bringing oneself to engage in affair treat up with a psychotherapist who processes the person first, and when the reality of the spiritual is ripe to address, the psycho-therapist asks me to come in for spirituality and prayer.

I want to use of these myself for burnout therapy back in the early-90s. He told me, "Use cube as therapists is to make you aware of what is going on in your life, especially the obstacles to grace in your life. In my 15 years as therapist, I am convinced that unless the grace comes, the healing will not take place. But you will have to decide to clear the obstacles to grace in your life."

Obstacles

The denying of self and the taking up of one's cross come at very enormous of what is going on in our life, moving the obstacles to grace to our life, and, most importantly, getting a glimpse of the meaning, the mission to our life. That moment can bring us back to our authentic self, the authentic self that has been covered up by rules we needed to play expectations we needed to meet, other people's dreams we needed to live out, traumas that gripped us in fear. We can go on, and on with our list of experiences that help draw us away from our authentic ourselves.

This when the "ideal" comes, we say, "stop!" and, pardon the "irreverence," "What the hell am I doing?!" There is that yearning to go back to our authentic self, to listen to the "voice that calls within": follow me.

Let me end with an example from a song and a poem. This song, "Pilgrim's Theme," music by Fr. Wendelin Franciscus, S.J. and lyrics by Fr. Johnny Go, S.J., is standard fare in all my seminars and retreats. It tells of the story of St. Francis Xavier. It is the story of our journey: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Tired of wearing chains upon my soul
Tired of searching clouds upon their brow on us;
Tired of getting tied to doing what's required.

To live for me routine in the greater scheme of things?

Through with taking roads someone else designed
Through with chasing stars that were forged in others

Through with going through one more day, what's new?

Does my life still mean a thing in the greater scheme of things?

I think I'll follow the voice that calls within.

Listen to the silent song it sings.

I hope to find my place, to my life will find its place.

I listen to the SILENT my place in the greater scheme of things.

Beautiful place

Over a year ago, I was invited to give a seminar by Mountain Gregion, who passed many km from Manila. Imelda's capital had banned the big-C for years, but in this "crisis" she slowly rediscovered her authentic self. With her family, she put up the Field of Faith sanctuary in Calauan, Laguna, where we had the seminar. It is a beautiful, peaceful place for prayer, solitude and rediscovering the authentic self.

I played "Pilgrim's Theme" during the seminar and, this, I was told by her daughter events it started a new stage in Mountain's journey. Soon after she came across a poem by Jacek Philcox, "Love After Love." This captured the core of Mountain's journey and her discovering, as so discovering, "her treasure and her soul." This is also our journey—our treasure and our soul.

The time will come
when, with elation
you will greet yourself arriving
at your own door, in your own mirror
and each will smile at the other's welcome,
and say, sit here. Eat.

You will love again the stranger
who was your self
Give wine. Give bread. Give back your heart
to itself, to the stranger
who has loved you all your life

Sit. Feast on your life.

(With gratitude to Mountains Gregson and her family)

Milestones

E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required.

MELISSA PAVLAQUE

CUSWALDE LOUSANTOS

Elenor Dumipor Melgar, son of Ruel M. and Lourdes D. Melgar, will marry Carlo-os Jose Pastuque, daughter of Ricardo B. and Lourdes D. Pastuque, in a catholic ceremony on Sept. 30, in St. Andrew the Apostle Church, Bel-Air II, Makati. Reception will be in Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati.

Rhia Mariee de los Santos, daughter of Ramon de los Santos, will wed Glenn Cuswalde, son of Lamberto Sr. and Delia Cuswa, on Sept. 30 at Our Lady of Remedios Parish in Malate, Manila. Reception will follow at Dusit Thani Manila in Ayala Center, Makati. The bride will wear a gown by Rita Villanueva of Francois Viet Haute Couture.

Wedding expo in SMX

ACTING the Wedding Expo Philippines' Sept. 10-11, at SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia complex. Pasay, and get exclusive to win a honeymoon package in Bali, Indonesia or Puro Pacific Manila.

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Entrance is free! Lovers register online at www.themanners.com.ph. Free admission tickets may also be accessed from Manners Mobile, Makati Shangri-La and selected branches of participating wedding suppliers.

A grand food tasting session will be conducted by PEP expert pastry chef Jacqueline Cabrera. Interested couples may send their names, wedding date, & reception venue to grandfood tasting@themanners.com.ph, event to reserve a slot.

Celebrities include florist and event stylist Teddy Manuel, banquet stylist and caterer K by Dacasin, event stylist Pete who specializes in green and eco-friendly themed weddings.

Wedding Expo Philippines is organized by Inquirer.net. Visit www.themanners.com.

airphilexpress boosts presence with more new flights, fleet and tie ups

With seven Airbus A320, three Q300s and five Q400s under its wing, Airphil Express is moving ahead with new and exciting itineraries and markets making it the country's fastest growing budget airline.

While traffic growth from all Philippine carriers remains at double digits this year, the rise of Airphil Express has been described as "staggering." From 2.9 percent of the market share during the airline's pre-rebranding period in 2009, Airphil Express increased to 11 percent, representing some 1.9 million passengers on its first full year of operations. Backed by a $250-million re-fleeting program, the airline is seen to yield the highest growth rates among other Philippine budget airlines over the next years.

With aircraft acquisitions recently, the airline has opened new routes. Domestically, Airphil Express has commenced Manila-Tacloban flight, Manila-Cosmiz and Davao-Iloilo routes. A Cebu-Hong Kong flight debuted last month. To date, Airphil Express now flies to 20 domestic and two international destinations. It also enticed passengers with promotions such as advertorials, express sale, 20% student discount, among others.

Two more new Airbus A320 are expected to come before the year ends and with impending flights taking off via Clark International Airport, Airphil Express will continue to enjoy a good spot in the budget airline category.

Airphil Express is also very keen on giving the best value-for-money with travel services such as Web Check-In, Travel Insurance, Seat Selector, and Pre-Paid baggage. It is also the lone airline company that offers unbeatable 15-kilo free baggage allowance and an additional 7-kilo hand carry.

For more details, visit www.airphilexpress.com, follow us on www.twitter.com/airphilexpress or Like Us on facebook.com/airphilexpressph.

The latest Airbus A320 addition to the growing fleet of Airphil Express.

Cebu-Hong Kong passengers had a blast when the custom-made Chinese lanterns, containing corporate and travel freebies was given during the Cebu-HK inaugural flight.

(From L) Peter F. Ong, Airphil Express President and CEO; and Victor Jose I. Lucino, Clark International Airport Corp. President and CEO.

The budget airline recently signed a partnership with M. Lhuillier to give passengers more options to make their flight arrangements.

The country's fastest growing budget airline partnered with SM Supermalls to grant exclusive perks to SM Global Pinoy (SMGP) members and non-members, and make flight transactions with Airphil Express even more convenient and possible.

Songs for your secret, sacred time

THEY DON'T call themselves a choir or even a singing group. They are a group of young people, most of them professionals and a few college students, who sing to glorify God and draw people closer to Him. They call themselves Hangad.

Next month, Hangad will mark its 20th anniversary with the release of a new album that explores and celebrates prayer as a deeply personal communication with God.

The CD, the group's eighth, a titled "This Time with You." It contains 20 songs, 15 of them original compositions by the members, which span a broad range of themes, emotions and musical styles, including a mix of a cappella vocals and various instruments (piano, guitar, flute, saxophone, strings). Bernata Lanzo, the celebrated principal cellist of the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, performs a solo.

The album will be launched at two free concerts on Sept. 3, 2 p.m., Church of the Risen Lord in Hill Megawatt, Mandaluyong City, and Sept. 10, 7 p.m., at Greenhills Chapel, Ayala Greenhills, Makati City.

Accompanying the album is "Words and Music," a book containing reflections and prayers written by Hangad members, and the complete vocal scores of the songs on the CD.

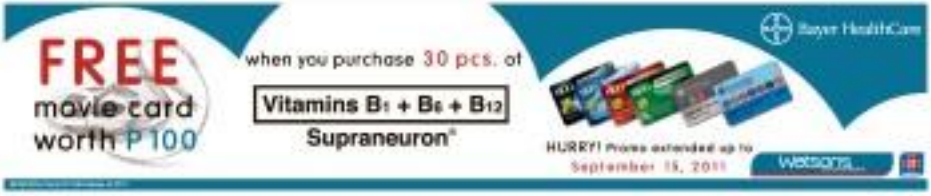
This new album results Hangad's origins as a choir for Days with the Lord retreats at Ateneo High School in 1991. The group has since produced five music videos under Jesse dela Cruz and has performed in numerous inspirational fundraising concerts around the country and the United States.

In 2006, Hangad won the Awit Award for Best Inspirational/Religious Song for "Pintig (Tenga sa Puntos ni Hesus," from the album "Easter Journey."

Hangad is under the Jesuit Music Ministry "This Time with You" is a joint production of Hangad and Jesuit Communications Foundation.

For more information, readers may check out Hangad on Facebook or visit www.hangad.com; e-mail mail@hangad.com.

HANGAD



One Tablet a Day is All You Need

Ever experienced a tingly sensation in your wrist after doing something repetitive like writing or typing?

If this is the case, you're probably got Carpal Tunnel Syndrome.

How exactly do you deal with it? Let's find out.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome "is the effect of pressure on the median nerve, one of the main nerves of the hand."

Symptoms

Tingling (parang nanunuot-nanuot), numbness (namamanhid), weakness (panghihina), and pain in the fingers or hand (pananakit sa daliri o kamay) are manifestations of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Some people experience arm pain, usually between the hand and the elbow. The thumb, index finger, middle finger, and half of the ring finger are the ones affected the most. It is said that if you have problems with these fingers but your little finger is ok, then you probably have it.

Causes

Here are some factors that can lead to Carpal Tunnel Syndrome:

1. Repeating the same hand movements continuously – more so when your hands are lower than your wrists
2. Hypothyroidism, rheumatoid arthritis, and diabetes
3. Obesity
4. Wrist injuries and bone spurs

Treatment for Nerve Problems

Fortunately, all nerve-related problems like Carpal Tunnel Syndrome can be treated. Your physician can recommend non-surgical and surgical remedies for your condition.

So that your hands and feet feel better, avoid activities that cause numbness and pain. You'll also need the right dose of Vitamin B to help speed up relief as deficiencies in B vitamins can cause nerve pain and nerve damage. Doctors recommend taking Vitamin B-complex (Supraneuron) every day. It has 250 mg of Vit. B1, 250 mg of Vit. B6 and 500 mcg of Vit. B12, as it assists in repairing and rebuilding the protective structures that guard your nerves. Just one tablet of Supraneuron daily is enough to prevent and treat minor nerve problems. Unlike the more affordable OTC B-complex brands that require three-four tablets a day to get a higher dose.

This simply means you're better off managing your Carpal Tunnel Syndrome with Supraneuron. Nothing less.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

Two more indies to Hawaii

CHEER FACTOR

How our films will go to foreign fests

By Marinel R. Cruz

EXCLUSIVE

CHEER FACTOR

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Long wait for Kim Hyun Joong

From page G1

...never known. "I took a leave from work to come here," proclaimed Mary Eugene, a judge at the Regional Trial Court in Pasay. Turned out, she's Pia's younger sister.

Pilarskhide found out all of 73, Mary went on to say, shown tearfully, that Kim had resolved her life in a special way: "He wanted to ask me out of the dark."

Added what, in particular, she liked about Kim's music, whose lyrics are mostly in Korean. Mary said: "The melody, of course ... and his hot body!"

Everyone cracked up, but the lady judge looked dead serious. We sensibly expected her to...

...today on a gravel and lit as on the head with it. Pinkhide Cove caption

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4
1: FINAL DESTINATION 5 (3D)
2: COLOMBIANA
3: CARS 2 (3D)
4: TWIXEN ACADEMY /TWIT BACK HOME
5: FINAL DESTINATION 5
6: ONE DAY
7: CONAN /CRAZY STUPID LOVE

GREENBELT 1
1: COLOMBIANA
2: FINAL DESTINATION 5

GREENBELT 3
1: ONE DAY
2: CARS 2 (3D)
3: COLOMBIANA
4: CARS 2 (3D)/FINAL DESTINATION 5 (3D)
5: CONAN /CRAZY STUPID LOVE

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1: COLOMBIANA
2: FINAL DESTINATION 5 (3D)
3: CARS 2 (3D)
4: CRAZY STUPID LOVE/COLOMBIANA
5: ONE DAY

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1: RESERVED
2: COLOMBIANA
3: CARS 2 (3D)
4: FINAL DESTINATION 5

MARQUEE
1: FINAL DESTINATION 5 (3D)
2: CARS 2 (3D)
3: COLOMBIANA
4: TWIXEN ACADEMY

MARKET! MARKET!
1: CARS 2 (3D)
2: ONE DAY
3: COLOMBIANA
4: FINAL DESTINATION 5 (3D)
5: FINAL DESTINATION 5
6: RESERVED
7: TWEEN ACADEMY

TRINOMA
1: FINAL DESTINATION 5
2: CONAN /CRAZY STUPID LOVE
3: CARS 2 (3D)
4: FINAL DESTINATION 5 (3D)
5: ONE DAY
6: TWEEN ACADEMY
7: COLOMBIANA

ABREEZA
1: CARS 2 (3D)
2: FINAL DESTINATION 5
3: COLOMBIANA
4: TWIXEN ACADEMY

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MALL EVENTS

GLORIETTA
Around 2F-2G Activity Center

GREENBELT
Around 3F Greenbelt 3 Cinema

MARKET! MARKET!
Activity Center, 3F Market! Market!

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Activity Center, Ground Floor

BONIFACIO HIGH STREET
Activity Center, 3F Bonifacio High Street

TRINOMA
Activity Center, 3F Trinoma

MARQUEE
Activity Center, 3F Marquee Mall

ABREEZA
Activity Center, 3F Abreeza

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Activity Center, 3F Citimall

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How our films will go to foreign fests

would get a grant of up to P800,000; for those in exhibition, up to P400,000.

In the second tier are the festivals in Amsterdam (Netherlands), Locarno (Switzerland), Los Angeles (CA) and New York (including Tribeca, Telluride in Colorado, IFAM, Montreal (Canada), Busan, Tokyo and London, it lists instead to compete in any of these would get up to P600,000; or up to P400,000, for exhibition.

In the third tier are the San Sebastian and Valladolid (Spain), Seattle, Palm Springs, South by Southwest in Texas (USA), Sitges, Austin and Sydney (Australia), Bangkok, Deauville (France), Flanders (Belgium), Edinburgh (Scotland) and Kaleves Vary (Czech Republic) festivals. Films competing or exhibiting in festivals in this tier are entitled to grants of up to P400,000.

"This is still part of our program," Dela Rosa said. "We're not being selective because our funds are limited and we have our own programs to finance."

Tim Ellen Starr Serra, tasked to the Busan International Film Festival in October, Loy Arcenas's "Soho" will compete in the New Currents Section. Films for exhibition are Lawrence Fajardo's "Sunday," Adolfo Alix Jr.'s "Bulo," Marlon Rivera's "Ang Babae ng Septic Tank," Lauren Dyogi's "Maskara" and Milo Tolentino's "Bisaya," "Iuli, Bestarde" and "Baril sa Ilalim Kuwag" series and directed by National Artist Fernando Poe Jr., will be shown

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
THEATRE-MALL
PROMENADE
GOT FRIDAYS

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
1 MORE DAYS
2 FINAL DESTINATION 5
3 CRAZY STUPID LOVE
4 COLUMBIANA
5 ONE DAY
DIGITAL CINEMA 6

POWER PLANT CINEMA
ONE DAY - 9:15
1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:10, 10:00
CARS 2/CRAZY STUPID LOVE - 9:20
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
FINAL DESTINATION 5 - 3D
1:00, 3:25, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00
CARS 2 (IN 3D) - 6P
11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:45
COLUMBIANA - 9:10
1:45, 3:55, 5:55, 8:15, 10:05
CARS 2 - 6P
12:55, 3:20, 5:45, 8:05, 10:25

NOW SHOWING
PG-13
CRAZY STUPID LOVE

OPENS SEPTEMBER 7
Mario Maurer
The one you love is already dead...
But love never dies.
BANGKOK GHOST STORIES

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 CARS 2 (3D)
1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
2 SILENT FILM FESTIVAL
3 COLUMBIANA
11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
4 ONE DAY
1:30, 4:00, 9:05, 9:00
FINAL DESTINATION
1:10, 4:00, 9:00, 9:40
Watch Cars 2 in Disney Digital 3D at the Shang Cineplex and win prizes!
Shangri-La Plaza

NEWPORT CINEMAS
1 COLUMBIANA
CRIMEN
2 CARS
ONE DAY
3 CARS in 3D
4 FINAL DESTINATION 5
CRAZY STUPID LOVE

THIS MOVIE IS NOT YET RATED BY THE MTRCB
OPENS AUGUST 31
NATURE'S MOST FEROCIOUS PREDATOR
SPEED: 60 km/h
BITE FORCE: 42,000 lbs/inch²
SENSES:
SIGHT - Perfect
SMELL - Perfect
HEARING - Perfect
APPETITE: Very Hungry.
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE FINAL DESTINATION
SHARK NIGHT 3D

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"A WELL-CRAFTED TEAR-JERKER. ...BRING A BOX OF TISSUE OR BETTER, BRING TWO BOXES."

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Anne Hathaway/Jim Sturgess
One Day
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LAUGH AT THE EDGE OF DANGER
JOHNNY ENGLISH
IN THEATERS 15 SEPTEMBER

High-ranking politico now...

Pasuyguin 04

solves as a couple.

It made insiders that LH and HG are house-hunting! They were spotted checking out a property that was for sale, in an exclusive village in the Pasig-Mandaluyong area.

How sweet.

Perhaps they're also overcome many rumors about their gender preferences.

Two faces of Eve

Lovely Aunor is back being groomed for the big time in their home studio.

LS1, however, seems envious of LS2 and has been bad-mouthing her every chance she gets.

Unknown to LS1, most of their coworkers know the real score. While LS2 is generally well-loved, LS1 is universally loathed in the workplace.

While LS2 is perceived as an "angel," LS1 is known as a "witch."

Fate windfall

According to the grapevine, Indonesian actress received a hefty pay hike for her latest project...a windfall for the usually cash-strapped star.

Turns out...the salary increase was just a means started by ABS management to increase her premium in the biz.

That's downsize.

Wahlberg burger

ROCHESTER, New York—Actor brothers Donnie and Mark Wahlberg have licensed the name of a hamburger from a restaurant in New York chain of drive-in-style restaurants and plan to use it for their new eatery in Boston.

Tom Wahl's owns sell the burgers and Chronicle newspapers that the brothers have licensed the Wahlberger name from the company so they can use it when they and another sibling, Paul, open a burger joint named Wahlburgers Restaurant in their hometown. Tom Wahl's serves a cheeseburger called a Wahlburger and owns the federal trademark rights to the name.

Tom Wahl opened the first Tom Wahl's restaurant in 1955 in Avon, south of Rochester. He sold it in 1986. The chain now operates eight restaurants. The company hasn't disclosed the amount of the licensing agreement. AP

Q&A with Nirvana

NEW YORK—Comedy Central's Jon Stewart will host a Q&A session with the surviving members of rock band Nirvana to celebrate the 20th anniversary of its album "Nevermind."

Nirvana will host the event on SiriusXM for two hours on Sept. 24. It will feature Kurt, Nirvana band members Dave Grohl and Krist Novoselic, and Butch Vig, the producer behind "Nevermind." Stewart will host the event on SiriusXM for two hours on Sept. 24. It will feature Kurt, Nirvana band members Dave Grohl and Krist Novoselic, and Butch Vig, the producer behind "Nevermind." AP

BEA Moreau and Zanjoe Marudo

JOH Stewart

- Hey Gay Kindling Arndt malulusaw.' (Heya Gwinn, is that you?)
- Jo, mga patalbog na mambeta kay Jules Sandot, Nanay Rubi at iba pang yung hin? (Jo mga dating mga na 'yun?)
- Imo siguro happy sa pagbabalikan nina Jay Gee at Regee. (Mayo naman siguro sinuwan ang 'yun, eno?)
- Tatapos sjeste pabasahin si Sen. Pilfher's love gut to do with that? (Ano ba ang ibig sabihin ng pahabol na 'yun?)
- Julio no seven si shone bit! (Mi decide it.)
- Bastaville Sam Go hay John Henry Sens no. Sipsi na! (Fine.)
- Grade ni Lovi Poe nagmamore. (May awards?)
- Dolenz Trillo sealing pact kina Jim Morrison at Luis Manzano. (Uh, duet lang?)
- JM de Guzman bagong pupuag ng mga bading. (Appear?)
- Inday Carmen nagpalista ng pwet at "My Neighbor's Wife" (Si Inday Cal din, sa "Panda." At si Brad Pitt at "Troy." Ahmo! Iba-iba nama ang mga napuntahan!)
- Carmina claim to fame as pag-ipod. (Why does she need that?)
- Gerald con, Julia Clan in no in, it's not somebody.)
- Sabado pedi ang pagtalong ni Ajlai Joy Joseph Bitangcol. (Good boy.)
- Ang pangarap ako mga mamatanong, Sam Milby mentions ang drone, ang timing diyan, pakimbang.)
- James Yap game na game sa interviews (noong birthday ni Mother Lily). (Of course—loyal pangkota na anake!)
- Dennis Trillo: Oo, magkakaibigan! (Why does she sound... nala lang?)
- Kim walang planong dimanit si Julia. (Pinagdaan ka yan?)
- Willie Revillame: Ikaw ang sanya ko subgot libre museum si Pacman.)
- Katrina Halili nagsuot si Heydee Abo. (Parang hindi.)
- Ogie Alcasid sa wedding na ako. (Ang adjective na 'to, ano kaya ang superlative form?)
- Julio: Type ko yung isagawa sa kanya! (Ang design? Mag-pokka? Mag-ramdam?)
- Chief ako Andrés—Marcelito Pomoy. Bumi ako! And stop bugging him!)
- Wendell Ramos ang kinis ko na. (Agree. Spin a win!)
- Billy anniversal bang dakanta mayon? Kinga & Imbrado sa Blue Magic Ball. (M, eh. With matching beard-shake.)
- Toni Gonzaga ng-babakasan kay Ogie. (Impossible. Ogie should patent.)
- Obligasyon ni Chariline si mga tao. "Pag naiinis nilang kanyang ang ampon ang anak ko, please!" (Adopted, pwede?)
- Kapuso-anak ng bahay si nagsawit, Isabelle Daza nagwalak kay Gloria Diaz. (Guys, she's not 14, okay?)
- Julmes game na game sa balikan nila si Maymi. (Friendship forever.)
- Magic Limk to bahay ang boyfriend ni Toni Gonzaga! (And can we blame anyone—anyone at all...for trying?)

JEKE Cuenca

HORIA Kanor

#3 FIRST place, he could pass for "Filipina Got Talent" host Billy Crawford's twin. Thus, registered nurse Gregory Paolo Llamosa, 24, stunned everyone when he walked onstage to take a shot at a "PEP" slot. The show airs on ABS-CBN Saturdays, 9 p.m., and Sundays, 8:30 p.m.

Pinay in Mrs. Globe till today

SHE GOT the nose on face break. Shorena Carla Cabrera Quimpo learned the hard way to crown the Philippines in the 2011 Globe pageant through a private message from the national organizer.

"I learn the preparation would be tedious, Quimpo told Inquirer before she left for California for the title, which is being held today. "But I went ahead and accepted it." She is competing with 40 finalists.

When Megastar Productions sent out the call to married Filipina women for the international pageant, Quimpo was among the 300 women who responded. She said she was drawn to the competition's advocacy. "It supports the WILK Foundation in America, which promotes the empowerment of abused women," she said.

Quimpo, 36, is chief executive officer of her own HR Matching Communications Inc. She met 1991 Miss Teen Philippines Cleo Nonet-ap, 1994 Binibining Philipinas Miss Photogenic and 1998 Binibining Philippines Queen of the Seas Arnida Adiong.

HORIA Carla Cabrera-Quimpo

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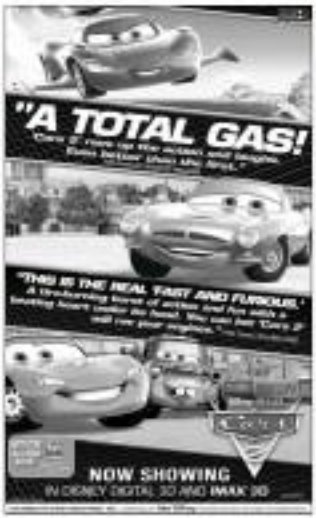

High-ranking politico now eyeing sultry singer

By the Entertainment Staff

HIS STAFFERS know about Top Politico's two weaknesses: He's equally passionate about ear-listening music and beautiful women. Lately, he's been able to combine the two pursuits in one package.

Sultry Singer is the new "apple" of TP's eye (and ear), leaving insiders to wonder if the two wouldn't be an item, especially because some of TP's underlings are more than willing and eager to please their master's every whim.

Close encounter

Speaking of chance encounters... Josephyn Hernandez recently went shelling at the Poblacion with frequent visitor, Luis Manzano.

By coincidence, Angel's "My Neighbor's Pikit" was shooting at the same place. One of the cinema flicks' stars is Bernardo Bernardo, Josephyn's ex-BF.

According to an eyewitness, Josephyn spotted Dennis Trillo, Jennylyn's ex-BF, and Manzano in a distance and scampered away, dragging Luis down the escalators. Maybe Luis, a known Dennis fan, was out to meet his favorite actor.

Now, that was close.

House-hunting newspaple

They've been claiming a wildly grossed-about rental office for so long, it has become legal.

But it seems Gorgeous Babe and Bonky Guy are about to "end" their

MORE RUMORS, G2

LOVE! Perez said to be avoiding arms.

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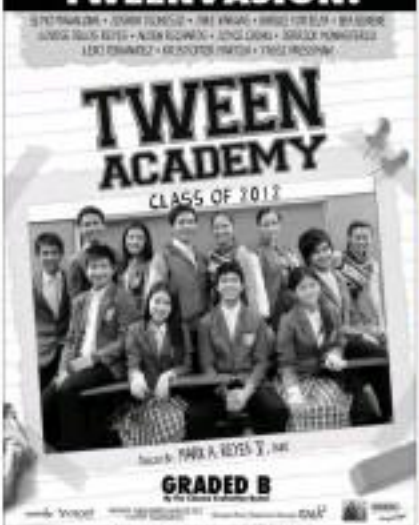


PARIS: Hilton's mirror used wrong way!

ENTERTAINMENT

LEAD: Nicolas Dell Aviles with Stephen Sondheim's "Too Many People" from the 1947 musical "Saturday Night."

What makes Sondheim 'incredible'

LOS ANGELES—Last Friday we wrote about "Philippine Celebrations Sondheim Series by Sondheim," a special benefit concert on Nov. 7 at Lincoln Center in New York.

He asked 14 members of the impressive cast of 93 Filipino-American musical theater talents which Stephen Sondheim lyrics they resonate with each of them. Their answers reflect the complete, intelligent work of the multi-award-winning composer.

Ticket information about the show in benefit of Philbo's projects to support education, livelihood, healthcare and other programs in the Philippines is available on www.friendsconcert.org.

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Reuben V. Nepales

'Stay With Me'

Rona Figueroa: "'Stay With Me,' from 'Into the Woods,' recalls my relationship with my babies. In the musical, the witch keeps her daughter, Rapunzel, locked away in an unlikable tower. The witch justifies this action by saying that the world is dangerous and that the daughter will only be hurt by others, and no one loves her more than she does, anyway. My father was just as protective and controlling, trying to have a say as to who my friends and boyfriends should be, how I should spend my free time, what I should be reading, what I should be studying in school, etc.

"It was ruthless, difficult and not fun. A lot of immigrant Filipino parents do this. It's obvious to me now that the intentions are well-meant, but based on their own fears of being in a foreign country, dealing with feelings of inferiority. Fortunately I was able to escape my tower, grow up on my own, and come to

PAOLO Montalban pick is "Marry Me a Little," from "Company"

CHEER FACTOR

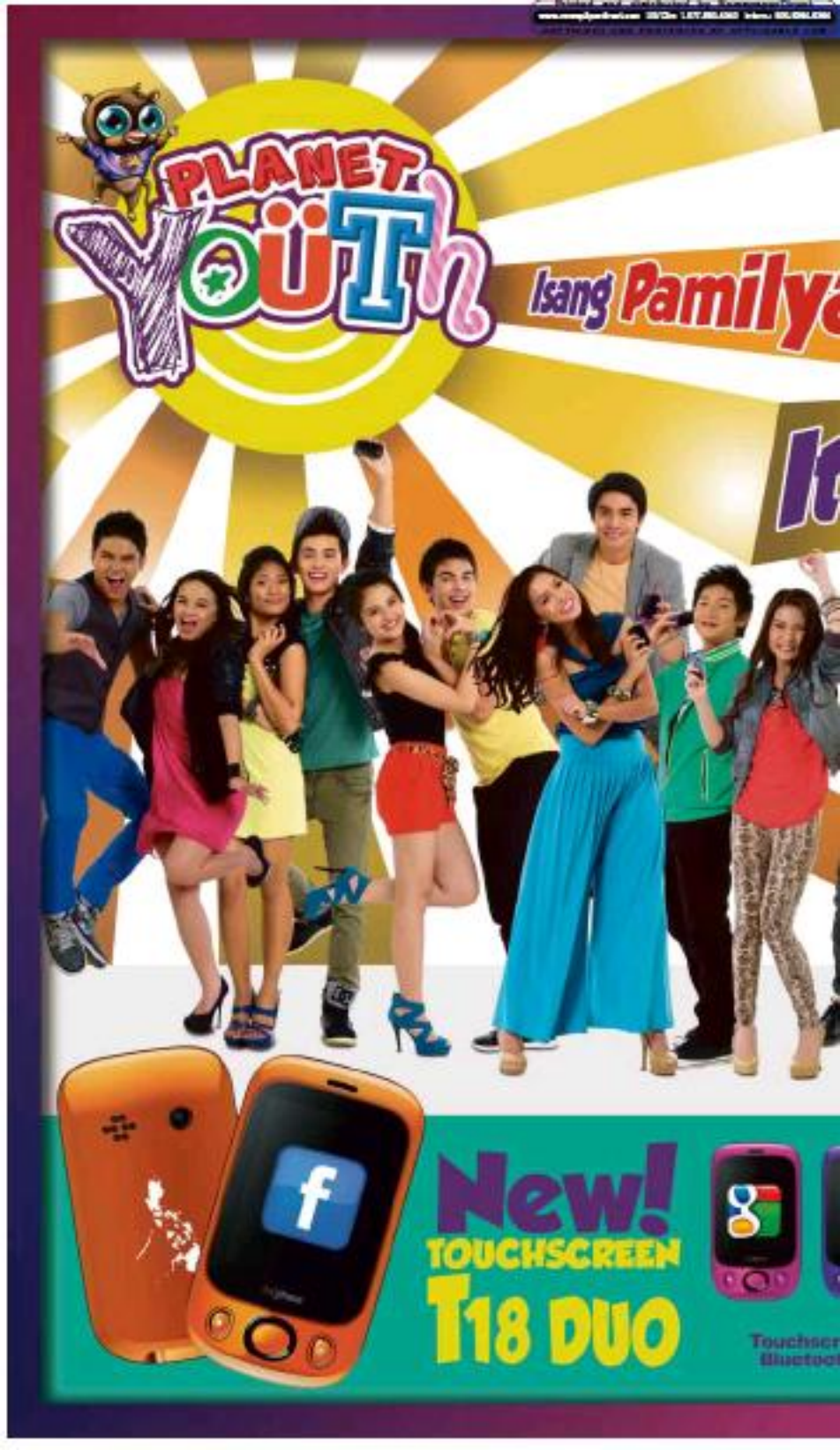
NEW YORK—Like David Letterman, Ashton Kutcher isn't afraid of a little lotion humor.

Kutcher taped an appearance for Letterman's talk show Wednesday, coming on stage wearing a helmet and a bulletproof vest pressed with the phrase, "Not here."

Late week, a contributor to a celebrity website posted a clip of video about against Letterman because the comedian had made fun of al-Qaida leaders on a previous show.

During Wednesday's taping, Letterman asked Kutcher if his heroin was bulletproof. The actor replied, "You can't be too careful" while wearing a gag facing a threat. AP

ASHTON Kutcher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What makes Sondheim...

From page H1

ADAM Jacobs: "Maria," from "West Side Story"

ANGEL Dimalo: "Mama Do," from "Sunday in the Park with George"

recognize other examples of my father's behavior and choices that were based solely on generosity, love and self-sacrifice."

'Move On'

Angel Dimalo: "Wow, what a question! Her two years as Diane are so many that one cross with me. But one that stands out is 'Move On' [from 'Sunday in the Park with George.' Letting go of something that one is attached to—a ritual/habit, an idea of oneself, a piece of art in progress, a familiar place in which we feel comfortable—is difficult for all of us, and there are many times I found it particularly impressive. Hearing that song for the first time was the feeling owned by a friend, but in the gentlest way possible. I feel the lyrics apply to any of the above-stated items.

"We cannot control the outcome of a particular choice, but we can and must make a decision each time, and that's what moves us forward. It reminds us that what others think of our choices is immaterial, as we can't control that, either. Still, we must become who we are meant to be. The song anthem to a senior which I believe—that the only thing constant in this world is change."

'Being Alive'

Jose Llanos: "I'll be doing this in the concert 'Being Alive' a song by the character Bobby in Company/ His search for love, truth and his own mortality was something I always connected to. Being 28 years old, the same age as Bobby is in the play has particularly strong and somewhat mixed meaning to me as well."

Jesse Hernandez: "Just out of curiosity, I am attracted to the lyrics of 'Being Alive,' which searches for commitment with lots of (fearful) expectations or maybe one (fearless) in all. I was nurturing relationships, especially the ones built on strong, mutual respect. Most of my relationships aren't perfect at all, but enough for me to struggle to become better, more challenged... to know that for as long as I live, I will always need the need as special and to inspire. But to be happy now give happy."

'Maria'

Juliana Jacobs: "My favorite Sondheim song is 'Maria,' from 'West Side Story' It has a melody that pulls on my heartstrings. The whole song is built around those haunting three notes in 'Ma-ri-a.' I love how it's so simple yet its ability grows to soar and swoop, and how it 'builds' gorgeously through the bridge and ends so angelically. What more evidence do you need to know that Sondheim is a genius?"

'Marry Me A Little'

Jennifer Paz: "Marry Me A Little' comes to mind immediately. The song gets right to the beautiful complexities of commitment. From the moment I hear the first few notes, those notes up and down the scale—there's a movement about it that always sends a surge of emotion right through my heart. And then those lyrics! 'Marry me a little, love me just enough. Wave and wave and early just the simple stuff. Keep a tender distance or we'll both be free. There's the magic it might be her. Just beautiful."

Paolo Montalban: "Marry Me a Little' deals with the fear of losing one's identity when one forms a union with another person in marriage."

ALI Ewaldt: "Somewhere," from "West Side Story"

'No One Is Alone'

Catherine Richert: "'No One Is Alone,' from 'Into the Woods,' It was one of the first musicals I ever did. It was a pivotal point for me in falling in love with musical theater and realizing just how touching and profound its messages could be. The haunting melodies and lyrics of this song reflect how Fright we are as human beings when we start growing out of our fairytale-like childhood and face the realities of the world.

"Despite the mistakes, disappointments and regrets we have along the way, I am always reassured as I listen to this song that someone out there understands and accepts me. I am moved by its empowering, loving message—how we can make things right by supporting and forgiving one another and reciprocating compassion."

JOEN Almodiller: "Being Alive," from "Company"

'Somewhere'

Ali Ewaldt: "I hear the lyrics to 'Somewhere' every night in 'West Side Story' and they transport to blow me away. The sense of hope they convey, despite an atmosphere of prejudice and misunderstanding, is relevant, moving and inspiring, over 50 years after they were written: '...There's a time for us/A time and place for us/Hold my hand and we're halfway there...'"

Blaise Phelan: "'Somewhere,' from 'West Side Story.' The messages of hope, reassurance and acceptance that underscore the play are also fully encapsulated within the song itself. It's a ridiculously beautiful thing."

'So Many People'

Lora Morales: "'So Many People,' from 'Saturday Night,' is about a woman who questions herself being with a rich and successful man, but finds herself falling for someone who has meager means. I fell in love with the song the first time I heard it. I even thought of singing it at my own wedding. I like the simple, haunting melody and a message that is very poignant to me: that there are so much more important things in life than money, success or fame.

"When you are fortunate enough to find the kind of love that gives you sheer joy, inspires you to be a better person every day, or the kind of love that you know would only come once in a lifetime, don't let it pass you by. Embrace it. This song has always resonated with me during the course of my relationship with my significant other."

E-mail the columnist at rmpalos_2585@yahoo.com.

CATHERINE Rovatsos: "No One Is Alone," from "Into the Woods"

ROMA Figueroa: "Easy With Me," from "Saturday Night"

DIANE Phelan: "Somewhere," from "West Side Story"

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Editor Jessie Francis N. Balbuena

CEO's views of the emerging HR function

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie O. Cecilia

I LEARNED MY EARLY DEFINITIONS of management from Rudyard Kipling who once wrote, "If you can keep your head when all around you are losing theirs, then you are a manager, my son."

Today, many managers are losing their heads because of the unpredictability of business, success and life. In many parts of the world, there is a war going on. But in business, the biggest war that's raging and devastating many businesses is the war for talents — the people wars.

Comes now HR

Because of the incessant fighting to get the best people into their organizations, many CEO's have been sleepless, not just in battle but in practically all parts of the world. The first casualties in the Human Resource brand, the dreaded HR persons, chief Learning Officer, or somebody who comes with a similar title, from Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Information Officer (CIO), pulled out their hair and burned the midnight oil to conquer time.

When I was young and silly, I used to think management was the President was a doctor of medicine and the Personnel Manager was a military pilot who was sadly infatuated to become the director's aide-de-camp. When both of HR managers, pilots or practitioners could not cure their wounded patients or fly their airplanes — it just is to control the leaders and managers to lead their people to the dark and hell-bent f**k.

The reality but business were merciless and unforgiving. Even boys "Sex don't annihilate your organization now but internal battle amongst alliances even with your competitors. You'll never know but one day your competitor will be your ally or both of you could be bought by a bigger guerilla. Lifetime employment has become boring and impractical in this era of temporary relationships; you just have to keep moving. Even the name of the Industrial Revolution until the glory days of the neo-liberalism and the holy treasures, the economic plans to the future, today, often the best tools for the job is a resume.

Reality check

The workplace has never been an interesting, dynamic, and challenging as now. Today's HR must square-dismiss and transform massive effectively manage human resources, as people are emerging as the true the most important component in business. It is naive to note that many CEO's are not happy with the way HR is contributing value to the organizations. If HR isn't more CEO's expertise them, it will certainly lose its place in the Board room — assuming that it is already there. Here are a few reasons why today's HR must change or be changed to meet the challenges and demands.

Reasons how the HR is outdated: When I first joined a large conglomerate in the 1970's, money was the order of the day. Unless you were a recruitment job grade, everything is confidential and anyone are light to know. Today, if you want employees to be aligned and engaged, you have to empower or drive by sharing information. The mushroom treatment doesn't work anymore — it just is to control the leaders and managers to keep their people in the dark and feed them s**t.

The reality but business were merciless and unforgiving. Even boys "Sex don't annihilate your organization now but internal battle amongst alliances even with your competitors. You'll never know but one day your competitor will be your ally or both of you could be bought by a bigger guerilla. Lifetime employment has become boring and impractical in this era of temporary relationships; you just have to keep moving. Even the obligations of electronic networks.

Emerging roles

As a corollary to profitability, Human Resources must begin to take on new roles, often in non-traditional or unconventional. In the real world, finance, marketing and the supply chain have found their increasingly permanent niches. Each has their own perspectives that the CEO can understand and support. In contrast, HR's roles usually connect it too being able to play a variety of roles. If it can demonstrate business, marketing, in the supply chain, then it must be in HR's domain. This contributes immensely to making HR function the driving mental jobs.

Finance prides itself in operating the River Financial stability, marketing decides the CEO with market share, and brand leadership, sales flaunts increasing revenues, and the supply chain moves the CEO with volumes, inflation, and just productivity. What does HR bring to the table?

Emerging imperatives

CEOs need to make business decisions that flow with the strategic implications. The four HR functions provide fast and accurate information needed for top-level decision making. Many of today's HR managers are not capable of providing their CEOs with words — typical demographics and some information about their people that even the competitors should have. Worse, HR managers must develop non-traditional measures of individual and organizational performance. Many HR managers must develop non-traditional measures of individual and organizational performance. Many HR managers must develop non-traditional measures of individual and organizational performance. Many

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- In-depth knowledge of W3C accessibility and web standards
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- Excellent verbal and written English skills

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- CruiseControl
- Jenkins/Hudson (Yuhi) Maven
- Object Oriented Programming
- Ant/Nant/Perl
- JSON
- UML, SPF/DFD
- Subversion
- Linux Kernel, Android

TEST ANALYSTS

This front end role involves a combined role requiring a thorough understanding of web technologies and the flexibility, experience and confidence to work in this within scale. Responsibilities for this role include automated testing of multi-cross-platform products for the Financial Times.

- Bachelor's or technical discipline or appropriate technology training and experience
- ISTQB or equivalent software testing accreditation
- Good knowledge of web testing tools for load automation
- Knowledge of SQL and experience in either Oracle or MySQL
- Good written communication skills and experience of working with users of Unix, SunOS and Debian/x
- In-depth understanding, through broad experience, of all key aspects of testing in an Agile environment, from usual work-to-functionality, sync, cross-functional testing such as security and performance testing
- Good working knowledge of HTTP/1.1 and an appreciation of W3C accessibility and usability standards
- Recommending of a range of Software Development Libraries (Agile, Waterfall, TDD) and have first potential user experience in the SDLC cycle
- Excellent verbal and written English skills and adept with technical documentation
- High level of attention to detail and excellent logical problem solving skills

Desirable Competencies:

- Subversion and Ant/Nant/Perl
- Knowledge of Java, Scala or Oracle Application Test Suite
- Embedded systems

INTEGRATION DEVELOPERS (WEBMASTERS)

This role focuses on maintaining, developing and supporting the FT's publishing and online delivery systems. This is a technical role requiring an excellent understanding of web services, Apache, HTTPD, application servers (especially Tomcat, Weblogic), database management (Oracle experience), Unix, Linux, Active Physical and an content management systems (Methods).

Key Tasks:

- Management and configuration of web servers, application servers and the systems and code surrounding them
- Configuration of the SAN and the systems surrounding it
- Management and configuration of Content support of online systems in production, 2nd line support of pre-production
- Configuration for release management/versioning processes
- Provide input to the configuration of load management system architecture
- Work with other IT teams to fulfilling integration requirements
- Work with, and to, agile development teams developing solutions

Essential Skills and Experience:

- Knowledge of Information Retrieval, Computer Programming or any IT-related course
- Excellent communication and problem solving skills
- Extensive UNIX system administration experience (Solaris 9 & 10)
- Extensive knowledge of Apache HTTPD, Tomcat, and mod_perl
- Knowledge of and experience in web services (Apache HTTPD, and Apache Tomcat servlet container, Java Virtual Machine), or a similar product. Active Physical web middleware also considered.
- Experience in using and configuring SAN
- Understanding of the HTTP protocol, DNS, TCP/IP, clients and other network protocols
- Excellent verbal and written English skills
- Ability to work on multiple UNIX platforms including nights, holidays and weekends as required
- Previous experience working in a multinational company and providing remote IT support on since days

Desirable Attributes:

- Experience in content management systems
- Relational database experience (Oracle, MySQL)
- Working knowledge of Solaris and/or MYSQL
- Experience in an Agile/Scrum/Iterative development setting

WEBMASTER (SITE SUPPORT ENGINEER)

To monitor the various European Times websites and provide Advanced Hardware & IT support and Management mainly of UNIX/Linux operating systems and to business liaison for replacement of business processes. The role will also involve working with third party content providers and monitoring operations.

Key Tasks:

- Responsibility for the regular review of each market website monitoring e.g. Keynote, BBC Pathfinder, availability of feeds, editing out of date alerts, other activity in navigational technical requirements
- Trend analysis of problem areas in respect of website performance and escalation of any issues
- Provide technical support to editorial personnel in identifying performance issues around, degradation patterns etc.
- First, diagnostic and fix web server issues, including broken links (both internal and external), typographical errors, and formatting inconsistencies
- Monitor and maintain the server environment for the web sites
- Participate in the development and integration of graphical and multimedia components into the web sites, including audio and video
- Ensure compatibility and interoperability standards that ensure site accessibility for users and roles (creation controls as well as front-end functionality)
- Work with the Content Team to support their requirements
- Working with the Operations Team supporting improvements in monitoring and reaction to issues

Essential Skills and Experience:

- Broad knowledge of web technologies, protocols and tools
- Working knowledge of web authoring, development, and publishing tools
- Strong understanding of monitoring and customer service principles
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Experience working within a customer service environment
- Familiarity in browser compatibility issues

Desirable Attributes:

- Experience working under high-volume project management
- Experience of Unified Messaging Networks (preferably Nortel)
- Working knowledge of CSS, JavaScript
- Basic knowledge of Web/CGI technologies

Qualified applicants should send their detailed resume, cover letter and most recent working payroll to **The HR Manager**, through email to **hrmanila@ft.com** or through the address below:

Financial Times Electronic Publishing Philippines Inc.
4/F Tiger Philippines Bldg.
3000 Tiger Boulevard, Makati City

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Dr. Maria Tavalla
Dr. Mabel Guanlao

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Call for Applicants for Deputy Chief of Party

Private Sector Mobilization for Family Health Project – Phase 2 (PRISM 2) is a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Chemonics International Incorporated. The purpose of PRISM2 is to assist the Philippines Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and Local Government Units (LGUs) to engage and mobilize private sector resources in the delivery of family planning and maternal child health services and products. Chemonics International Inc. seeks a Deputy Chief of Party for its PRISM2 Project, the principal duties and responsibilities include:

- Supervision and implementation of all project activities ensuring that performance schedules are observed and outputs are completed and delivered according to schedule and required quality;
- Provide technical oversight for all studies, diagnostic and/or operations researches, demonstration projects, training and technical assistance undertaken under the contract and ensure timely provision of feedback and guidance concerning the functioning and effectiveness of the various components of the contract;
- Directly supervise the Senior FP/MCH Service Delivery Advisor, Senior FP/RH/OH Marketing Advisor, Senior Social Marketing and Communications Advisor, Alliance PPP Development Advisor, and Senior Health Policy & Financing Advisor;
- Liaise with principal policy and decision makers within the DOH, and other government agencies, professional and trade associations, interest groups, and the community at large to assure that project activities are relevant to the current policy issues and directives being debated in the health community at large.
- Ensure implementation of project activities in accordance with Chemonics' business code of ethics and USAID and Chemonics' policies and regulations;
- Perform any other task that is consistent with the DCOP/FTC's skills and experience and the Scope of Work.

Job Qualifications

- Must be a Filipino national with Master's level of education/training or its equivalent in health financing, marketing, economics, public health, health administration or a related field with at least 7 years successful previous experience working with national and local government on the development and/or implementation of health programs both at the national and local levels in the developing world.
- Has thorough understanding of the Local Government Code of the Philippines, the complexity, dynamics and nuances of local government administration, and the regulatory and current issues of LGUs in the Philippines and knowledge of and familiarity with health systems, health financing, marketing and health program policy issues confronting the Philippines.
- Proven successful prior experience in building and maintain relationships with partners, USAID, DOH, LGUs, and pertinent other government agencies and instrumentalities at the national and local levels and familiarity with private health sector and extensive work in health policy offering private sector work in the Philippines and prior experience or knowledge of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that contribute to health project strategy improvements.
- Skills in writing, analysis and preparation of evaluation reports highly desirable.

Detailed scope of work, deliverables, qualifications, special knowledge requirements and application procedures are available in our website: **www.prism2.ph/opportunities**. Deadline for submission of application is COB on the 16th of September 2011. Due to the volume of applications we receive, we will only contact short-listed candidates for further screening.

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SENIOR RESEARCH EXECUTIVES

- Has working experience in the selection and application of appropriate market research techniques and must demonstrate a good understanding of their strategic and commercial implications
- Capable of dealing with corporate clients and is confident to analyze and present research results to senior management
- Natural team player, possess leadership and commanding skills in implementing research projects (i.e., working with support groups from other units in the company)
- Has 3-4 years working experience dealing or coordinating with researchers from another agency, an ad agency, business to business/field force, or from using market research in the client side
- Graduate of Behavioral Science, Statistics, Business Economics, Marketing, Sociology, Communication Research, with above-average scholastic standing
- Adept with data, excellent written and oral communication skills

RESEARCH EXECUTIVES

- At least 1 year research working experience in marketing research with adequate familiarity to project implementation an advantage
- Possesses high levels of attention to details and accuracy, has methodical approach
- Accepts instructions from the relevant senior personnel and carries out the tasks set within the deadline agreed
- Is expected to be proactive in their support of other executive staff
- Has positive working disposition, interpersonal skills, fair levels of analytical abilities, communication skills both written and verbal
- Above-average scholastic standing
- Graduate of Behavioral Science, Statistics, Business Economics, Marketing, Sociology, Communication Research, or Economics

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

- Not more than 25 years old, fresh graduates are welcome
- Some business graduate, Statistics and Communication Research an advantage
- Above-average scholastic standing
- Familiar with or has basic knowledge of research design, implementation, data processing and analysis
- Analytical, with excellent written and oral communication skills

Send your resume with latest photo and transcript of records to the HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

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San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
Or e-mail career@psrc.com.ph

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- Good communication skills with knowledge in Excel
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- College undergraduate with relative work experience

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- Amenable to working cyclical shifts
- High involvement and understanding in contract and transition negotiations

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- At least 3-5 yrs managerial experience
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- Knowledge/proficiency in MS Office and AutoCAD Application

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- Candidate must be BS Architecture graduate, advantage if Licensed
- Age 25 - 30 years old
- Must be hardworking
- Can work with minimum supervision
- With good communication skills
- Preferably 2-4 years working experience specializing in architectural/interior design, Engineering Detail and electrical/structural or equivalent
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International Cabin Attendant Training School (ICATS)
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MARKETING ASSISTANT

Requirements (pls):

- at least 25-30 years old
- must have a degree in BSBA major in Marketing
- must have an experience in executing marketing campaigns on widely different scales
- prior experience of 1-2 years is desirable but not essential
- must be fluent in English with good communication skills
- must be good in interpersonal and team skills
- adhering to deadlines, meeting targets at all costs and going that extra mile to fulfill company requirements is a must! celebrated feat for this posts

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NGO Project Coordinator

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CREATIVE AND DIGITAL ARTIST

- College graduate or undergraduate of Fine Arts with units in Computer Literacy or Multi-media Arts
- Proficient in Illustrator, Photoshop, HTML, XSL, XML Markup
- Knowledge/skills on common office productivity tools
- Ability to execute instructions with room for personal style and creativeness
- Ability to follow instructions
- Independent and good attention to details
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Work fast or operate under pressure
- Can work with minimum supervision

NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTER SPECIALIST

- College graduate or undergraduate of Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Physics / Math / Statistics / Business graduates with units in Computer Science
- Proficient in PHP, Java, MySQL, C/C++, HTML
- Knowledge/skills on content design, animation/design, networking skills, computer repair and common office productivity tools
- Ability to execute instructions with room for personal style and creativeness
- Ability to follow instructions
- Independent and good attention to details
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Work fast or operate under pressure
- Can work with minimum supervision

SENIOR APPLICATIONS/PLATFORM DEVELOPER

- College graduate of BS Computer Science or Computer Engineering, Physics or Math, Statistics or Business with units in Computer Science
- 1-2 year work experience
- Proficiency in the following (to be specific to language/platform): PHP, Java, MySQL, C / C++, HTML
- Aptitudes/Skills: System Design, Service Design, Networking Skills, Computer Repair, Proficient knowledge on common office productivity tools
- Ability to follow directions and execute directives of delivery
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for the Review and Development of the National Guidelines for Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)

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SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS

- College graduate preferably Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Background in Computer Hardware and networking
- At least 1 year experience in Website or Intranet programming
- Proficiency in Windows, Web building, PHP or other web programming tools
- With knowledge in Visual Basic and Powerbuilder
- Proficiency in Microsoft Applications and with knowledge in Lotus 123, related database management system

MARKETING SERVICES ASSOCIATE

- College graduate, all related courses
- At least 1 year experience and events management experience
- With background in communications and marketing (PR and promotions, etc.)
- Analytical Skills, Attention to Details, Business/Organizational Development Skills, Project Management Skills, Presentation Skills, Verbal Literacy Initiative

SALES OFFICE ASSISTANT

- College graduate preferably with background in Sales and Marketing
- At least 1 year experience in the field of sales/marketing
- Basic Computer Operations Skills, Administrative Skills, Telephone Communication Skills

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WEB DEVELOPER / DESIGNER

- College graduate, preferably B.S. in Computer Science / IT related courses
- Multi-skilled on the following: JavaScript, CSS, XHTML, XML, PSD and Flash
- Experience in Content Management System (Wordpress, Joomla, Drupal)
- Basic Graphic Design related experience
- Experience in deployment of website based on LAMP (Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP)
- Passion for creativity and strong desire for success a must
- Balanced ability to perform analytical as well creatively
- Detail-oriented and conscientious worker
- Ability to work as a team as well as part of a team
- Good communication, project management, and documentation skills
- Demonstrated solid grasp of design principles and attention to detail
- High degree of motivation with a strong desire to improve skills and drive change

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- College Graduate, preferably major in Accounting
- With at least 1 year experience in a related job
- Knowledgeable in government regulations/requirements
- Knowledgeable in Bookkeeping & accounting
- Proficient in computer operations
- Can work under pressure and with minimal supervision

CHANNEL EDITOR

- College graduate, preferably major in Journalism
- At least 1 year experience as Editor for newspaper or in a related job
- Highly energetic, motivated, and can work with minimal supervision
- Willing to work for long hours and deadlines
- Familiarity with latest internet trends and technologies
- Computer Skills, Communication Skills, Writing Skills, Research Skills, Interpersonal Skills

ACCOUNT MANAGER

- College Graduate of any Business Course
- At least 2 years working experience as Account Manager or member of the Sales Force in Digital Media or any related media firm
- Must be Goal-Driven, Results-Oriented, Self-Reliant, Enthusiastic, Creative and Resourceful
- With excellent communication Skills and Presentation Skills
- Can work with minimum supervision

Send your application letter and comprehensive resume to:
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E-mail: **sabines@inquirer.net**

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- A college graduate
- With at least two (2) years experience in distribution in a fast-moving consumer goods company (FMCG) or similar industries
- Can work under pressure and must be able to thrive in a deadline-driven environment
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- Has very good communication skills, both oral & written
- Preferably a resident of Cebu and willing to travel to other parts of the Visayas region

COPY EDITOR
(Cebu-based)

- Above average skill in written English
- With at least two (2) years work experience in related field
- College Graduate, economics, related field preferred
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- Ability to analyze the market landscape
- At least Three (3) to Five (5) years in the same business area with (2) years in the supervisory level
- Familiar with the latest statistical / data gathering models, Telecommunications, IT and Internet Technologies

AUDIT OFFICER

- Accounting graduate and Certified Public Accountant
- Preferably with BIR work
- At least 3 years experience in accounting and audit work
- With knowledge of Internal Audit Standards, Principles and Procedures
- Knowledge of Standard for Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data Analysis, Taxation, Labor Laws
- Creative and Analytical Skills

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SALES OFFICE ASSISTANT
(Davao-based)

- College graduate of Business Administration, Communications, Marketing and other related fields
- At least one (1) year working experience in related fields
- Good communications and customer service skills
- Must be computer literate, dynamic and resourceful
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Plan

Children are at the heart of everything we do.

Plan International is one of the oldest and the largest international development agencies in the world. In the Philippines, Plan works with children and their families in the most communities and projects including education, child and youth empowerment, health, including water and sanitation, child protection and humanitarian assistance.

Plan invites applications from highly motivated, experienced and committed professionals to fill the following positions:

Area (1) Community Development Facilitator-ATIP (Anti Trafficking in Persons)
(Based in Northern Samar)

Has extensively developed Facilitates ATIP work with trafficking of children is responsible for the implementation of the community mobilization towards Prevention and Reintegration of the Trafficked Persons, supervision and/or the Barangay Service Network (BSN) and the people in Child Protection Community Mobilization (CPCM) Networks and gender mainstreaming activities under their responsibilities, and provide technical assistance in gender trafficking in persons and to ensure immediate recovery and reintegration of trafficking survivors, provide staff development and training and participate in the preparation of reports and documentation.

A Bachelor's degree in Social Work or Community Development is required. Preferably, a licensed Social Worker. Minimum 3 years paid experience in development work or similar in child-related issues that involve trauma intervention. Experience on child protection, gender issues, and child rights mainstreaming. Knowledge and experience in child abuse, gender and reproductive trafficking is a must. Strong knowledge and demonstrable skills in child centered community development approaches, participatory methodologies and facilitation skills. Knowledge of child protection issues, trafficking, and in depth understanding of the UNCRC provisions, Child 21 and other child protection instruments. Good communication and report writing skills.

Area (1) Sustainable Agricultural Specialist (Based in Occidental Mindoro)

Has a point of contact project level overall Livelihood Participatory Research is undertaken in cooperation with the Municipal / Barangay Resource Persons in Livelihood Identification. Project Point to be in February 2012.

The project aims to contribute towards poverty reduction approach for Mangyan tribal groups through livelihood development, enhancing management, capacity building of local institutions, sustainable utilizing natural resources, enhanced participation of Mangyan groups, protection of indigenous people's rights and advocacy, communication, network, Mangyan capability and their self-esteem.

The Sustainable Agricultural Specialist will provide technical and capital intermediation support to the sustainable development of the livelihood of the project participants in the area and conduct capacity building and training activities with other concerned. He/she will provide technical assistance to partner cooperative support. Monthly work review attended by Area Management and field processes are organized. Plan's Child Sponsorship Community Development Program is also implemented in the Plan's program and projects.

A graduate of Bachelor's degree in Agriculture Science, Forestry, Agribusiness or Agricultural Engineering is required. Minimum 3 years work experience in sustainable agriculture, livelihood programs and development work. Knowledge and skills in Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) techniques. Knowledge in community organizing/empowerment, program/project management and monitoring and evaluation. Ability to effectively and collegially facilitating, coordinate and conduct communication skills and relations with people.

Competitive compensation package and great opportunities for professional and career development await the qualified candidates.

Qualified candidates must submit their letter of intent with a detailed curriculum vitae **on or before 31 September 2011** to: HR Manager, Plan International Inc., or alternatively, to Plan International Inc. - Philippine Country Office (PCO), 6th Floor, Building 11 B Tech - 3B Food Center Compound, Barangay Mayamot, Antipolo City. Mobile phone numbers will be informed to short listed and actually interviewed.

Please indicate the position you are applying for in the subject title.

Due to the volume of applications we receive, we will only contact short listed candidates for further screening.

Previous applicants or non-selected applicants need not reapply, apply as new applications and/or automatically considered for reconsideration.

For more information on Plan International and its programs in the Philippines, please visit our website: www.plan-international.org

"Plan recruitment and selection policies and procedures promote and commitment to gender equality and child protection, against abuse"

Plan International is an equal opportunity employer. Only applicants who are selected for interview will be contacted. Thank you.

A foreign mineral exploration company
with a large portfolio of nickel laterite, copper-gold and gold prospects,
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LANDS/TENEMENTS MANAGER

Description: Responsible for managing the Company's mineral tenements and mineral properties in relation to their titles, legal rights, processing, permitting approvals and maintenance.

Experience: At least five (5) years broad experience in processing and managing mineral tenements from exploration to pre-development stage, and preferably through to development and mining operations.

Skills Desired: Must be familiar with the Mining Act of 1995, the IPRA Law, ECC procedures and related regulations pertaining to the application, processing, approval, and maintenance of mineral tenements. He/she must be culturally and environmentally aware, a highly self-motivated person, with strong organization, planning, coordination and communication skills.

We offer a rewarding professional career and top compensation package. Our company has a proven track record in the exploration, social and environmental programs in the Philippines having one of the largest and most active exploration packages in the country.

Interested parties may send their CV to **merigold@merigold.com.ph.** Application will be treated in strict confidence.

CRS

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Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is an American relief and development NGO founded in 1943 by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to assist the poor and vulnerable overseas, with programs in over 90 countries. Present in the Philippines since 1968, CRS' mission statement calls on the agency to alleviate human suffering, advance integral human development and foster charity and justice in the world. Among programs assisting victims on the basis of need, regardless of religion, ethnicity or nationality, CRS Philippine Program currently manages programs in agriculture, natural resource management, peace and reconciliation, and emergency response. Our fast, efficient and dedicated Market and Sales, CRS offers competitive salary and benefits packages.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CRS/Pilipinas Program is seeking experienced and dynamic individuals with the following general qualifications:

- Excellent communication and writing skills in English, especially report writing.
- Experience working as part of a multi-disciplinary technical team.
- Skills in the learning cycle: active learning; complex problem solving; critical thinking; service orientation; system evaluation; judgment and decision making; monitoring.
- Technology: Microsoft Office 2010/2007
- Knowledge: Quality management and basic negotiation

INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE / PEACE EDUCATION COORDINATOR (DAVAO)

The position will coordinate the Peacebuilding Program's inter-religious dialogue and peace education component under the Peace Communication Workplace (PCW) project. The person will provide training, technical support and implementing the program and local partners in Mindanao, and support various phases of project design, implementation, monitoring and learning. The position requires up to 70% travel to support partners in Mindanao Workplace.

- Bachelor's degree, preferably related to peace building and peace education; a master's degree is desirable.
- 3-5 years experience working with NGOs, the Church, or government agencies on peace education activities and inter-religious dialogue.
- Strong analytical skills, using both qualitative and quantitative information, generated through participatory approaches.
- Ability to work with stakeholders on multiple levels, including non-government organizations, donors, media groups, religious groups (CBCP/IC, Muslim, etc.), and government units.
- Strong ability in developing organizational capacities (including institutional strengthening, mentoring and coaching).
- Experience on project planning, use of M&E methods, and reporting.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM MANAGER – OPERATIONS SUPPORT (DAVAO)

Responsible for overall agroenterprise operations, supervises Inquiry Program Managers to ensure program objectives are met in coordination with partner organizations in compliance of donor policies. Travel required 10% of his/her time.

- Master's degree in Agriculture or development-related fields such as Agronomy, Agro-Economics, Natural Resource Management, Economics, etc.
- 7-10 years' experience in program design, implementation, management, and monitoring and evaluation at the grass roots level with local NGOs & government officials.
- Proven ability to provide technical assistance to partners on agriculture and related fields, including assessing technical capacities in action & determine training and support needs.
- Strong organizational and planning skills and appropriate communication skills targeting extension workers and farmers, plus monitoring the progress of activities from extension reports.
- Demonstrated capabilities in writing professional reports and papers, with skills in proposal development and interpersonal communication.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM MANAGER – TECHNICAL SUPPORT (DAVAO)

Manages four different Agriculture Specialists and outside advisers to provide technical and training support to CRS staff and partner organizations in provinces of Mindanao and Luzon. Travel required 60% of his/her time.

- Master's degree in Agriculture or other development-related field such as Agronomy, Agro-Economics, Natural Resource Management, Economics, etc.
- 5-10 years' experience in program design, implementation, management, and monitoring and evaluation of the grass roots level and with local NGOs & government officials.
- Excellent planning, budgeting and financial management skills required, in addition to abilities in personnel management, coordinating partner relationships, and managing multiple tasks simultaneously.
- Strong skills in writing reports and proposals, knowledge of donor and funding organizations, and experience in monitoring activities and reports for maximum impact and efficiency.

AGRI-MICROFINANCE SPECIALIST (DAVAO)

This position guides and supports initiatives that enable small farmers better access to and management of financial resources for production and marketing purposes. Travel will require 60% of his/her time.

- Minimum of a BS (Master's preferable) in Economics, Agro-Economy, Marketing, and Business, or related field; experience in agroenterprise/value-chain/marketing.
- At 3-5 years practical experience in implementing or supervising agriculture financing, agricultural marketing, farmer-writing and training skills. Experience with MicroNaid Financing institutions, LGUs, NGOs, or government agencies in planning and implementation rural microfinance projects preferably with farmers.
- Ability to develop and implement innovative strategies that improve farmer's abilities to both access and manage financial resources and other inputs.

TRAINING SPECIALIST – AGROENTERPRISE (DAVAO)

Responsible for developing materials supporting the implementation of activities for Agri-MRI projects, overseeing technical training and capacity building support for staff and partners. Travel required 60% of his/her time.

- Minimum MS, preferably Master's degree in Communications, Business, Agri-Business, Agriculture, or development-related field, or a minimum of a regular university degree with significant work experience.
- Minimum of 5 (+) years experience working with NGOs, Church, or government agencies in training activities.
- Experience and proven capacities in training and supporting partner organizations appropriately, including the development of innovative approaches for knowledge (behaviour change) and skill building. Strong writing skills required.
- Ability to identify, prioritize, coordinate, technical assistance on agriculture, MFM, enterprise skills, and organizational capacity building activities; must be able to write and analyze reports.

AGROENTERPRISE COORDINATOR (DAVAO)

Provides technical support and direction for promoting improved livelihoods among small farmers through agroenterprise and networking platform organization capacities. Travel required 70% of his/her time.

- Minimum of BS in Agricultural Economics, Marketing, Business, and other related fields, and/or experience in agri-based training and financing.
- At least 3 years practical experience implementing agriculture marketing and community-based development projects with NGOs, Church, or government agencies.
- Proven ability in training, extension, and trouble-solving field-level agriculture programs, including the provision of technical assistance & issue organization.

Interested candidates should send their curriculum vitae and cover letter, in English before September 9, 2011 to: crsph@asia.crs.org

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- Provide overall leadership and management in the preparation of annual work plans and budgets, and the preparation of reports on ADB's emergency assistance activities and accomplishments;
- Provide overall leadership and management in the preparation of project documents for ADB's emergency assistance projects, and the preparation of project administration instructions and guidelines for the implementation of ADB's emergency assistance projects;
- Provide overall leadership and management in the preparation of and monitor procurement and disbursement activities for

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Upscaling Forest Restoration Efforts in Key Biodiversity Areas is a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), with the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE) as project holder. The project intends to conserve biodiversity and manage natural resources by restoring and rehabilitating the declining forests in identified eight (8) project sites in the Philippines. FPE seeks to hire qualified applicants as project based staff for the following positions:

National Project Coordinator

Responsible for ensuring the implementation and the delivery of expected results of the project. Oversee the day-to-day operations of the project, supervise the project staff, and coordinate with non-government organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs), local government units (LGUs), and government agencies (GAs) at the local and national levels.

- Graduate of Forestry, Community Development, Environmental Science, and other related courses; having a Master's Degree or units is an advantage.
- At least five (5) years experience on managing or coordinating programs/projects in partnership with NGOs, POs, LGUs, and GAs
- Must have at least five (5) years supervisory/managerial background

One (1) Knowledge Management Specialist

Develops and implements the knowledge management and sustainability plan of the project. Coordinates the conduct of research, case studies, and production of information materials.

- Graduate of development and/or mass communications, and journalism; having a Master's Degree or units is an advantage.
- At least three (3) years experience in managing communications projects, preferably with exposure in environment conservation programs.
- Excellent writing and communication skills
- With strong background in research and writing.

One (1) Natural Resource Management Specialist

Develops and implements the reinforestation plan of the project with the project staff, NSO/PO-partners, local community members, LGE, GA, and other resource organizations.

- Graduate of Forestry, Environmental Science, and other natural sciences; having a Master's Degree or units is an advantage.
- With at least three (3) years experience in implementing community-managed reforestation programs/projects in partnership with NSOs, POs, LGUs, and GAs
- With strong experience in assessing the feasibility of implementing community based reforestation forest livelihood projects
- With technical skills in developing and coordinating training programs
- Good technical writing skills

One (1) Partnership Building Specialist

Develops and implements the partnership building plan of the project.

- Graduate of Social Work, Community Development, Forestry and other related courses
- Experience in strategic partnership development and management
- Proven ability to undertake social marketing activity towards partnership with NGOs, LGUs, resource organizations, business sector, and government agencies

Three (3) Regional Project Coordinators (Based in Quezon City, Cebu, Davao)

Coordinates the implementation of the project with NGOs, POs, LGUs, and other resource organizations within the area of coverage.

- Graduate of Forestry, Anthropology, Community Development, Environmental Science, Business Management, and other social sciences
- At least two (2) years experience in coordinating a locally or internationally funded project with NGOs, POs, LGUs, and GAs
- With excellent monitoring and evaluation skills

One (1) Project Assistant

Provides administrative and logistical support to project staff

- Graduate of Social Work, Community Development, Forestry, Business Management and other related courses
- At least three (3) years experience in a similar position with other NGOs

FPE

The HRD Manager
FOUNDATION FOR THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENT
Email: fpe-hr@fpe.ph and mmagdaraog@fpe.ph
Website: www.fpe.ph

Applications must be received not later than 9 September 2011. We will respond to shortlisted applicants only.

To save on paper, we will only accept through email the following requirements (paginated/another plus comprehensive curriculum vitae, with recent (90) colored photograph, and (2) two professional references from previous and current works with contact details.

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The management of Imperial Palace Suites Associated with Mercure Hotels awarded and recognized the honesty of an employee from Interlink Manpower Development and General Services Inc assigned in their hotel housekeeping department on Aug. 5, when the said employee returned to the last and found section of expensive cellphone unit left by their guest. Imperial Palace Suites presented the certificate of recognition and gift check and another certificate of recognition and a cash prize from Interlink. Photo shows from left are Armando C. Pineiro, Interlink operations manager; Chona J. Chico, Interlink HR manager; Sheila Korba Jr. awardee; Jolai Quelid, IPS general manager; Beng Buenaventura, Interlink admin coordinator; Phil de Jose Sr. IPS executive housekeeper; and Jericho P. Bugnalos, IPS HR manager.

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- Teacher Training and Materials Development
- Curriculum Development, Design and Support
- Educational Infrastructure
- Educational Governance Systems
- Education Planning and Policy Administration
- Institutional Strengthening and Organisational Development
- Project Management in the education sector
- Monitoring and Evaluation in the education sector

Complementary experience in capacity building, strategic planning and community knowledge is desirable. Experience working for bilateral and / or multilateral donors would be highly regarded.

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3. **Air conditioner technician / Mechanics** (not less than 25 years of age , with Minimum 10 years Experience in carpentry for A/C building Maintenance job. Please e-mail your CV & resume/ or Training Certificates to mailmanila888@yahoo.com or mailmanila888@hotmail.com.
4. **Plumbers/ Pipe Fitters**, (not less than 25 years of age, with Minimum 10 years Experience is required for plumbing / sewing Maintenance job. Please e-mail your CV + Certifications to mailmanila888@yahoo.com or mailmanila888@hotmail.com.
5. **Drivers** are required with Minimum 10 years Experience for Driving / Shipping job. Please submit your CV + Certifications to mailmanila888@yahoo.com or mailmanila888@hotmail.com.
6. **Edwards Princess School Teachers** with 12 -15 years Experience in student training field. Please submit your CV + Certifications to mailmanila888@yahoo.com or mailmanila888@hotmail.com.
7. **Civil / Architect Engineers** for food/water inspection job and documentary for housekeeping and Administration jobs 25 years old or less, (1-10 years) Experience, must have good English Language, Great Benefits. E-mail your CV + Certifications to mailmanila888@yahoo.com or mailmanila888@hotmail.com.
8. **Air Conditioner Technician / Plumbers / Drivers / Pastemen / Handymen**, (25 years old & less), Minimum 10 years Experience is required for building Maintenance job. Please e-mail your CV & resume/ or Training Certificates to mailmanila888@yahoo.com or mailmanila888@hotmail.com.
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Position Title	Position Code
Global Development Alliance/ Public Private Partnership Manager (GDA/PPP)	POS-006
Senior Health Policy and Financing Adviser	POS-007
Health Financing Specialist	POS-008
Capacity Building Public Sector Partnership Specialist	POS-009
Educational Methodology Specialist	POS-110

Detailed scope of work, deliverables, qualifications, special knowledge requirements and application procedures are available in our website: www.prism2.jobopportunities. Deadline for submission of application is COB on the 9th of September 2011. Due to the volume of applications we receive, we will only contact short-listed candidates for further screening.

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Ads with baby lice repellent claims must be supported by a Certificate of Product Registration from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

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People, Events & Products

500,000 Android devices activated per day - Google

GOOGLE SENIOR vice president Andy Rubin disclosed that almost half a million devices that are running on the Google Android mobile operating system are being activated around the world daily. The list of United Nations account (@Android), the Android co-founder also said that the figure is growing 4.4% week over week.

The new milestone presents a 66% increase from January 2011 when Google reported that Android was enjoying 300,000 activations per day. At the same time, Apple's iOS, is also enjoying 300,000 activations per day at the time.

Today Android is the no. 1 mobile phone operating system in the world having been installed in more than 100 million mobile gadgets such as tablets and smartphones.

Last June, the Philippines' leading wireless services provider Smart Communications Inc. (Smart) reported a doubling of Android devices in its network. From February to May 2011, Android posted a 102% increase in use with the biggest rise taking place between April and May.

"We unprecedented rise in the uptake of Android is testament to its increasing acceptance among Filipinos" said Smart wireless consumer division head Imelda J. Mojica. "As its biggest ambassador in the Philippines, Smart is committed in supporting the OS as it is key to bringing the smartphone and mobile Internet experience to all Filipinos."

Recently, the Philippines was crowned the "social networking capital of the world". In line with this new title, Smart now offers the Android powered HTC ChaCha "Facebook phone" free at Unlimited Data Plan 1500 and 1500 plus (free 1000 with 100MB free monthly).

The HTC ChaCha features a dedicated button that lets users upload content instantly to their Facebook accounts without the need for an app or to access the site using a web browser.

"From the texting capital of the world to the social networking capital of the world," said Smart mobile marketing head Claudia Zobel-Ang. "It is clear that the Philippines is moving with the times and Smart is proud to be part of that amazing feat."

Smart is the exclusive sponsor carrier of HTC devices in the Philippines, also available from Smart is the HTC Desire HD free at Unlimited Data Plan 3000, the HTC Wildfire S (free at Unlimited Data Plan 1500) and the HTC Desire S (free at Smart Unlimited Data Plan 2000). All these phones feature seamless connectivity with the web via 3G or WiFi making them perfect for use with Facebook or mobile Internet anytime, anywhere.

For more information about other Smart handset packages, visit www.smart.com.ph or go to the Smart Wireless Center nearest you.

CALTEX-CHEVRON PHILS SPONSORS FRANCHISE ASIA 2011

Caltex Chevron Philippines is partnering with the Philippine Franchise Association (PFA) as platinum sponsor of Franchise Asia 2011, Asia's biggest franchising event happening on Sept. 19-21 at the SMX Convention Center, Chevron is the franchisor of Caltex Starmart and Caltex Havoline stations, as well as provide the gateway for international brands to enter the 600 Asean market through the Philippines, will gather in the country delegates from 40 countries countries of the Asian Franchise Association (AFA) and the Pacific Franchise Confederation (APFC) for the twin convention of the two world umbrella franchise organizations. Other highlights of Franchise Asia 2011 include the International Franchise Conference (Sept. 19-20), a high-level educational forum featuring leading international experts and speakers; the Indonesia Franchise Expo (Sept. 20-23), a one-stop showcase for the best business opportunities ranging from established and successful brands to new and promising franchise concepts; and, Educational Seminars and Seminars (Sept. 19-20), a learning venue for would be franchisees, franchisors and international master franchisees. Present during the event will be Tech Ingenuity winner Caltex Olympia Philip and PBA stars Olsen Racela, Robert Q. Yeo, Chi Ildefonso, Jeff Chan, Wes Gonzales, Jireh Agustin, Jeric Teng, Mike Cortez, Jay Washington, Jimmy Alapag, Ronjay Buenafe, Jonas Villanueva, Jeff Chan, Ryan Arana, Jimmy Alapag

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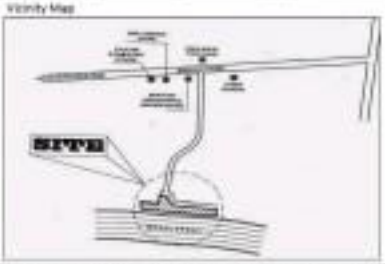
PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

TCT No.	Location	Type	Land Area (in sq.m. (more or less))	Interested Mortgagee Bid (Php)	Date and Time of Auction	Place of Auction
TP-11411	Located within Barangay Calajoan, Minglanilla, Cebu. It is bounded by the shoreline of Bohol Strait on the south and bounded by a 3 meters wide Alley on the North. About 300 meters south of the Barangay Road or the Menfort Missionaries Mission House, approximately 350 meters southeast of Calajoan Elementary School, 400 meters southwest of TESDA School and about 2.5 kilometers road distance from Minglanilla Municipal Hall.	Residential Land	2,000	2,200,000	Sept. 22, 2011 9:00 a.m.	At the Office of the Clerk of Court, Regional Trial Court, Branch 35, Cebu City

The Fronting Alley and Shoreline

Vicinity Map



All properties are to be sold on "As-is, Where-is" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 651-2122 or send an email to: foreclosedproperties@intergroup.ph.com

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that Ms. ELIZA M. BINES (a.k.a. YSA BINES), whose photo appears above, is no longer connected with CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL MEASUREMENT, INC. effective August 1, 2011. Any transaction entered into by the said person in behalf of CEM shall not be honored by CEM.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

PILARICA C. VILLANUEVA

This is to inform the public that Ms. Pilarica C. Villanueva "Rosch", whose picture appears above, is no longer connected with FIRST VISION EVENTS AND MANAGEMENT CO. effective August 05, 2011.

Any transactions entered by her on behalf of the company shall no longer be honoured.

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ENRIQUETA BABIA VELUZ

July15, 1920 – August 25, 2011

Peacefully joined her Creator and her husband ***Dr. Dominador O. Veluz***

Her children, **Joselito** (†) & **Tessie**, **Oscar** & **Oyie**, **Nadjie**, **Jaime** & **Imba**, **Jun** & **Pachot Garcia**, **Rennie** (†) & **Det Capistrano**, **Agot**, and **Zaldy** & **Nova**, grandchildren and great grandchildren, relatives and friends request prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in Lucban, Quezon.

Interment will be on Tuesday, August 30, 2011, at San Luis Memorial Park after the 2:00 pm Funeral Mass in St. Louis Parish Church, Lucban, Quezon.

On the 20th Anniversary of her departure, we dearly remember

PAOLA O. LUZ

(February 11, 1964 – August 24, 1991)

For 27 years, she brought us love, laughter & joy.
She will be remembered by her parents, **Arturo** & **Tessie Luz** and her sisters, **Angela**, **Lolin** & **Claudia** at a special mass at 5:00 PM at The Sanctuario de San Antonio Crypt.
Makati and to all masses in the main church.

CIELITO AQUINO ALINEA

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25

In Loving Memory
on the 18th Death Anniversary of
ROQUE "tete" VANO ESCAÑO

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"Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love Him." - I Corinthian 2:9

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Message of Thanks

MARIA LAWAS MALIGALIG

ANNOUNCEMENT

To our valued advertisers:

In observance of the National Heroes' Day on **Monday, August 29** and the end of Ramadan on **Tuesday, August 30**, all our Commercial Ave Branches will be closed on the said dates except our SM Megamall Branch.

For inquiries and ad placements, please call our SM Megamall Branch office at 635-02-19 and 687-23-54.

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- Copy of Death Certificate
- Any identification document (I.D.)

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"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." – John 3:16

Carmen "Nena" Icasiano Diokno vda. de Jose "Ka Pepe" W. Diokno

November 28, 1923 - August 26, 2011

We will miss her laughter,
and her immeasurable strength,
and her compassion, courage,
and deep capacity to love,
(and her Sunday lunches).

Her children, Mench, Popoy, Pat, Maris, Maitet & Clarence,
Cookie, Mike & Nicole, Chel & Divina, Maia, Martin & Beth;
and grandchildren Ana & Cocoy, Guia †, Kara, Katrin, Joel †, Joaquin, Nico;
Vina & Chris, Kamilla & Chris, Martina, Felipe; Diego, Caloy; Luis;
Pepe, Laya, Abe, Inez, Julio, and Ian; and great-grandchildren, Aylli, Tory,
Rayne; Charlei; Sophia; Bianca, Miguel, Cheska, and Natasha;
and her siblings, Ting & Fely, Pong & Tony †, and Caring & Ramon.

Her remains lie in state at the National Shrine of the Divine Child,
La Salle Green Hills, Mandaluyong City.
A funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, August 30, at 9:00 a.m.
Cremation follows.

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La Salle Green Hills, Mandaluyong City.
A funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, August 30, at 9:00 a.m.
Cremation follows.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 23, 2011

THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10028

EXPOSURE

AN ACT EXPANDING THE PROMOTION OF BREASTFEEDING, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7600, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS, "AN ACT PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO ALL GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HEALTH INSTITUTIONS WITH ROOMING-IN AND BREASTFEEDING PRACTICES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 10028, the following Implementing Rules and Regulations are hereby formulated for the effective implementation of this law by enforcement officials and representatives of the Department of Health, in consultation with other concerned government agencies, non-government organizations, private sectors, parents and educators.

RULE I
ENABLING PROVISIONS

Section 1. Title - These rules shall be known and cited as the Rules and Regulations Implementing "Republic Act No. 10028 also known as the "Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009."

Section 2. Purpose - These Rules are promulgated to prescribe the procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009 in order to facilitate the substantive thereof, and to achieve the objectives thereof pursuant to Section 15 of RA 10028.

Section 3. Construction - These Rules shall be liberally construed and applied in accordance with and in furtherance of the policy and objectives of the law. In case of conflict and/or ambiguity, which may arise in the implementation of these Rules, the opinions concerned should issue the necessary clarification.

Section 4. Declaration of Policy - The State adopts, promotes as a national policy to encourage, protect and support the practice of breastfeeding. It shall create an environment where basic physical, social and psychological needs of mothers and infants are fulfilled through the practice of exclusive breastfeeding.

The State shall likewise protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions, taking into account their maternal functions, and such facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation. This is consistent with international treaties and conventions that the Philippines has signed and ratified such as the "Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which emphasizes provision of necessary supporting social services to enable parents to combine family obligations with work responsibilities; the Beijing Platform for Action and Strategic Objectives, which recognizes the importance of work and family responsibilities for women and men; and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which recognizes a child's inherent right to life and the State's obligations to ensure the child's survival and development. Breastfeeding has distinct advantages which benefit the infant and the mother, including the mother and the country that adopts it as a policy as the first preventive health measure that can be given to the child at birth. It saves children from dying. It also enhances the mother-infant relationship. Furthermore, the practice of breastfeeding is cheap, convenient, and environmentally friendly technique that should otherwise be used for the importation. Breastmilk is unequalled as the best food for infants because it contains essential nutrients completely suitable their needs. It is also nature's best immunization, enabling the infant to fight potential serious infections. It contains growth factors that enhance the maturation of an infant's organ systems.

Towards this end, the State shall promote and encourage breastfeeding and provide the specific measures that would prevent opportunities for mothers to continue expressing their milk and/or breastfeeding their newborn young child.

RULE II
DEFINITION OF TERMS

Section 5. Definition of terms – for proper in these Rules, the following terms shall have the meaning as indicated hereinafter:

Advocacy – a process to bring about change in the policies, laws and practices of influential individuals, groups and institutions. It involves many people and/or organizations working together toward a shared vision of change.

Age of gestation – the length of time the fetus is inside the mother's womb.

Bottle feeding – the method of feeding an infant using a bottle with artificial nipples, the contents of which can be any type of fluid.

Breastfeeding – the method of feeding an infant directly from the human breast.

Breastmilk – the human milk from a mother.

Breastmilk substitute – any food being marketed or otherwise represented as partial or total replacement of breastmilk, whether or not suitable for that purpose.

DOH – refers to the Department of Health.

DOLE – refers to the Department of Labor and Employment.

Donor breastmilk – the human milk from a non-biological mother.

Expressed breastmilk – the human milk which has been extracted from the breast by hand or by breast pump. It can be stored in an infant using a dropper, a nasogastric tube, a cup and spoon, or a bottle.

Expressing milk – the act of extracting human milk from the breast by hand or by a pump into a container.

Formula feeding – the feeding of a newborn with infant formula usually by bottle feeding. It is also called artificial feeding.

Health institutions – are hospitals, health infirmaries, health centers, lying-in centers, or puericulture centers with obstetrical and pediatric services.

Health personnel – are professionals and workers who manage public administration functions operations of health institutions and/or who are involved in providing maternal and child health services.

Health Promotion – a process of enabling people to take action to improve health. It is anchored on five action areas: building healthy public policy, creating a supportive environment, developing personal skills, strengthening community action, and reorienting health services.

Health Workers – all persons who are engaged in health and health-related work, even if not primarily employed in all hospitals, clinics, health infirmaries, health centers, rural health units, barangay health stations, clinics and other health-related establishments, whether government or private, and shall include medical, allied health professional, administrative and support personnel and those assigned to the offices of their employment duties. It includes also personnel at the workplace.

Healthy Workplace – a place where everyone works together to achieve an agreed vision for the health, safety and well-being of workers, their families and the surrounding community.

Human Milk Bank – is a service established for the purpose of collecting, screening, processing, storing and distributing donated human milk to meet the specific medical needs of individuals for whom human milk is prescribed.

Incentives – The expenses incurred by a private health and non-health institution, establishment or institution, in complying with the provisions of this Act, shall be deductible expenses for income tax purposes up to twice the actual amount incurred provided that the deduction shall apply for the taxable period when the expenses were incurred provided that all health and non-health facility establishments and institutions shall comply with the provisions of The Act within six (6) months after its approval.

Infant – a child within zero (0) to twelve (12) months of age.

Infant formula – the breastmilk substitutes formulated industrially in accordance with applicable food standards, processed as necessary, to satisfy the normal nutritional requirements of infants up to six (6) months of age, and adapted to their physiological characteristics.

Lactation management – the general care of a mother-infant nursing couple during the mother's prenatal, immediate postpartum and postnatal period. It deals with educating and providing knowledge and information to pregnant and lactating mothers on the advantages of breastfeeding, the risks associated with breastmilk substitutes and milk products and suitable as breastmilk substitutes such as, but not limited to, condensed milk and evaporated milk, the monitoring of breastfeeding performance and the management of breastfeeding problems for mother-patients to ensure compliance with the 2001 World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the implementation of breastfeeding policies, this physiology of lactation, the establishment and maintenance of lactation, the popular care of the breasts and nipples, and such other matters that would contribute to successful breastfeeding.

Lactation Stations – Private, clean, sanitary, and well-ventilated rooms or areas in the workplace or public places where nursing mothers can wash up, breastfeed or express their milk comfortably and store the expressed milk for their own breastfeeding recommendation.

Low birth weight infant – a newborn weighing less than two thousand five hundred (2,500) grams at birth.

Milk Donor – a healthy lactating mother who volunteers to donate her milk.

Milk Storage Facility – are private, clean, sanitary and well-ventilated areas or spaces in a health institution or establishment for the purpose of collecting and storing milk among mothers who expressed their own babies due to medical reasons. This should not be differentiated from the lactation stations which primarily serves nursing mothers working in health or non-health facilities.

Mother's milk – the breastmilk from the newborn's own mother.

Networking – the process of linking up diverse individuals or groups bringing about their mutual development to share around their knowledge and new possibilities as a way of working through mutual interests.

Nursing employee – any female worker, regardless of employment status, who is lactating or breastfeeding her infant child and/or young child.

Non-health facility establishment or institution – public spaces and workplaces, as herein defined.

Philippine Health Promotion Program through Healthy Places (PHPP) – a national multi-sectoral health promotion strategy which aims to communicate health messages and build healthy supportive environment through partnership, networking and community action as per Administrative Order No. 187 - Implementing PHPP through Healthy Places.

Private Sector Organizations – refer to private owned companies, corporations, associations, foundations, and the like.

Public Sector – the portion of society controlled by national, state or provincial and municipal governments.

Public places – enclosed or partially enclosed such as schools, public transportation terminals, shopping malls, and the like.

Rooming-in – the practice of placing the newborn in the same room as the mother right after delivery up to discharge to facilitate mother-child bonding and to initiate breastfeeding. The infant may either share the mother's bed or the bassinet in the room with the mother.

Seriously ill mothers – are those who are sick under extreme conditions, or shock, in severe cardiac or respiratory distress, or dying, or those with other conditions that may be determined by the attending physician as serious.

The Act – refers to the Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act of 2009.

Wet-nursing – the feeding of a newborn from another mother's breast when his/her own mother cannot breastfeed.

Workplace – work premises, whether private enterprises or government agencies, including their subdivisions, instrumentalities and government-owned and controlled corporations.

Workplace Policy – a documented set of broad guidelines, formulated after an analysis of all internal and external factors that can affect it from a policy objective, recommended, formulated by the Inter-Agency Council of Women, workplace policy lays down the firm's response to known and knowable situations and circumstances. It also determines the formulation and implementation of strategy and directs and controls the plans, decisions, and actions of the firm's officers in achieving its objectives.

Young child – a child from the age of twelve (12) months and over (1 year) up to thirty-six (36) months.

RULE III
BREASTFEEDING IN THE WORKPLACE AND PUBLIC PLACES

Section 6. Objective - These Rules and Regulations seek to clarify the scope and applications of the Act in order that the proper parties may avail of its benefits.

Section 7. General Statement on Coverage - This Rule shall apply to all establishments, whether operating by profit or not-for-profit, employ in any workplace, covering employees, unless exempted by the Secretary of Labor and Employment, under Section 8 hereof.

Section 8. Exemption - A private establishment may apply for an exemption to establish lactation station at the DOLE Regional Office having jurisdiction over said establishment. The exemption may be granted by the DOLE Regional Director upon determination that the establishment of a lactation station is not feasible or necessary due to the peculiar circumstances of the workplace taking into account among others, the number of female employees, the distance of the establishment from the nearest public health center or hospital, the existence of an on-site clinic, and other available facilities or services which can meet the facility. Due authorization shall be made by the employer to support the application for exemption. The exemption granted by DOLE shall be for a renewal period of two (2) years.

Public sector may apply for an exemption from the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission. The exemption granted by Civil Service Commission shall be for a renewal period of two (2) years.

Section 9. Workplace Policy – Every workplace shall develop a clear set of guidelines that promote, promotes and supports breastfeeding program. The written policy shall be communicated to all employees and shall be modified, appraised and properly disseminated to all concern. The Human Resources Development Manager should be oriented on the proper handling, storing, and storage of their own expressed breastmilk. The policy should include part of the company's personal policy or manual of operation, and the policy should be operationalized in the provisions of this IRR.

Section 10. Minimum Requirements in the Establishment of Lactation Stations – It is hereby mandated that health and non-health facilities, establishments or institutions, as herein defined, shall establish lactation stations. The establishment of lactation stations shall be reasonable to the breastfeeding women. It shall be adequately provided with the necessary equipment and facilities and other items, the storage facility, which shall be clean, sanitary, well-ventilated, with comfortable chairs or couches, well-lighted, comfortable and free from contaminants and hazardous substances, and shall ensure privacy for the women to express their milk and/or in appropriate cases, breastfeed their child. In no case, however, shall the lactation station be located in the toilet.

Section 11. Workplace compliance with the IRR Code – In addition, the establishments shall take short measures to prevent any direct or indirect promotion of breastmilk substitutes, such as the display of formula and/or breastmilk substitutes in the lactation stations, or in any event or circumstances which may be conducive to the same, to effect exclusive breastfeeding up to six months and the introduction of appropriate complementary food from six months while continuing to breastfeed for two years and beyond.

Section 12. Lactation Periods - Nursing employees are entitled to unpaid intervals in addition to those given for meals to breastfeed or express milk. The employee shall notify their immediate supervisor before leaving their station. These intervals, which include the time it takes an employee to go to and from the workplace lactation station shall be counted as compensable hours worked. This DOLE may adjust the frequency and duration of such intervals not less than 20 minutes for every 8-hour work period, depending on the individual needs of the employee and the nature of the work, provided that the total period of breastfeeding/milk expression may not exceed 60 minutes per 8-hour work period. Any such employee shall be entitled to the benefits, privileges and all other benefits and conditions of employment.

Flexible breastfeeding schedules should be provided for pregnant women favoring the practice of breastfeeding. Pregnant women and nursing mothers in general breastfeeding or expressing breastmilk after returning to work. The information that will be provided to mothers should include maternal breastmilk expression, safe handling, handling, storage and transporting of expressed breastmilk.

The company should organize, initiate and conduct adequate orientation on lactation management, support program for nursing employees.

Section 13. Department of Health Certifications - Any health and non-health facility, establishment or institution satisfying the requirements of Section 10 and Section 12 of these Rules relative to a proper lactation station may apply with their respective Local Government Unit (LGU) to be granted the title of a working mother-baby-friendly establishment. The DOH will issue the guidelines for "working mother-baby-friendly establishments".

CHDs may coordinate with the LGUs and other institutions to be able to review applications, and verify compliance and eventually issue the certification.

The Center for Health Development (CHD's) at the regional level, will be in charge of the DOH certification.

The Department of Health shall maintain a list of "working mother-baby-friendly establishments," which it shall make available to the public.

The DOH may create an awarding mechanism for the health and non-health facilities that successfully comply with the Act.

Section 14. Eligibility for Tax Incentives - Apart from the minimum requirements under Section 10 of these Rules, establishments may provide other suitable facilities or services within the lactation station, all of which, upon due substantiation, shall be considered eligible for the purposes of availing the incentives provided for under the law Section 16 of the Act.

The expenses incurred by a private health and non-health facility, establishment or institution in complying with the provisions of the Act, shall be deductible expenses for income tax purposes up to twice the actual amount incurred, subject to the following conditions:

The deduction shall apply for the taxable period when the expenses were incurred.

That all health and non-health facility, establishments and institutions shall comply with the provisions of this IRR within six (6) months after its approval; and

That such facilities, establishments or institutions shall secure a "Working Mother-Baby Friendly Certificate" from the Department of Health to be filed with the Bureau of Internal Revenue, before they can avail of the incentive.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue shall provide for guidelines in the availment of incentives under the Act.

Section 15. Eligibility for additional appropriation - Government facilities, establishments or institutions shall receive an additional appropriation equivalent to the savings they may obtain as a result of complying with the provisions of the Act. The additional appropriation shall be included in their budget for the next fiscal year.

Government facilities, establishments or institutions, may request and provide evidence for savings generated due to the implementation of this law, considering but not limiting to the following:

a. Reduced cost of procurement, distribution, management of infant formula paraphernalia;
b. Reduce work days in absenteeism;
c. Increase productivity;
d. Reduce illness of the babies;
e. Others.

The Department of Budget and Management shall release funds supplementary thru savings of the appropriate Government agency and issuing guidelines on how to access such appropriations.

RULE IV
MILK STORAGE AND MILK EXPRESSION IN HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

Section 17. Milk Storage Facility - All health institutions adopting rooming-in and breastfeeding shall provide "milk storage facilities". These facilities are not the same as milk banks.

The Act authorizes for the rooming-in policy such that the mothers should have early skin-to-skin contact and early initiation of breastfeeding. Where mothers and baby are separated and direct breastfeeding is not possible, there will be a need for milk expression and milk storage. All facilities should include instructions on hand expression, storage and transport of breastmilk. There must be a dedicated and competent person who will oversee the milk storage facility. There will also be facility and the health facility should fully comply with Executive Order 51.

The following are the minimum requirements for a milk storage facility:

a. Well-ventilated space or area solely intended for milk collection and storage
b. Refrigerator or freezer or its equivalent (one unit/in following the guidelines for proper storage of breastmilk set by the Dept of Health
c. Sterile milk containers, hard plastic, food grade
d. Laundries with water and soap
e. Tables and comfortable chairs
f. Manual or electric breast pumps (optional)

Section 18. Milk Banks - Health institutions that are encouraged to put up milk banks include Natural Child Birthing Centers and Hospital Nurseries. A lactation milk bank should only be used on a temporary condition when the mother and baby are separated. Milk Banks may be source of breastmilk for infants that are carriers during an emergency and/or a disaster. The importance of breastfeeding should assist organizations be empowered in all matters, through counselling. Mothers of human milk bank recipients should be counselled to facilitate or re-lactation by trained milk bank personnel.

Milk banks should operate on a non-profit basis, but a nominal processing fee may be charged to cover for the screening, processing and administrative costs. However, inability to pay fee must not should not be a reason for non-enrollment of the milk for the baby. Milk Banks may be operated by trained nurses and other professional staff experienced who are involved in human milk banking and lactation management.

Section 19. Defined Areas in the Milk Bank

a. **Wash area** – it has a deep basin provided with direct water source and soap dispenser, clean hand towels or dryer for the donor mothers to facilitate expertly milk collection.
b. **Milk expression area** – provision of chairs and table where mothers can collect their milk.
c. **Processing and Storage Area** – This area is located in the innermost area of the facility and it is closed especially from the other milk bank areas for proper sanitary control. This area must be air-conditioned to maintain certain equipment.
d. **Office/administrative space** – milk bank records are kept here.

Section 20. Minimal equipment and structures in the processing area.

a. Refrigerator
b. Freezer (milk bank facilities will large volume supply of milk
c. requiring prolonged storage of more than a week would need an upright. (Go Chiller)
d. Computer with thermometer
e. storage and containers
f. working table
g. area w/medications
h. sterile, rigid, plastic milk containers

Section 21. Medical equipment and structures in the processing area.

a. Pasteurizer
b. Freezer (milk bank facilities will large volume supply of milk
c. requiring prolonged storage of more than a week would need an upright. (Go Chiller)
d. refrigerator with thermometer
e. storage and containers
f. working table
g. area w/medications
h. sterile, rigid, plastic milk containers

Section 22. Milk Bank certification or accreditation by the DOH – Human milk banks should be registered, licensed and monitored by the Department of Health under the Bureau of Health Facilities and Services (BHFS). Milk banks should follow the guidelines set by the Department of Health defining the proper donor screening, collection, storage, transport, processing and distribution of human milk. Human milk banking will be provided by reference human milk banks accredited by the Department of Health.

Section 23. Source of Donor Human Milk - Donation of human milk must be made on a voluntary basis. Donors must pass the screening procedures set forth by the Department of Health and women with serious risks come from, but not limited to the following:

a. Living in abusive/unsafe areas
b. Health Workers
c. Community Support Group
d. Government agencies and Private enterprises with lactation stations
e. Private individuals

Section 24. Treatment of pasteurized human milk – An outline of necessary pasteurization shall be set forth in a separate list of milk banking guidelines by the Department of Health. Pasteurized human milk should be dispensed only with a prescription from a physician. Pasteurized human milk may be given if there is deficient in maternal or infant indications, as recommended by the attending physician

RULE V
BREASTFEEDING INTEGRATION IN THE CURRICULUM

Section 25. Roles and Responsibilities - The following are the roles and responsibilities of concerned government agencies, bodies, academic and professional organizations.

(a) Department of Health (DOH)

Provide technical assistance/support in the development of materials or curriculum in line with breastfeeding, infant, young child feeding (IYCF) and other breastfeeding related education.

(c) Department of Education (DepEd)

1. Issue memoranda, orders and directives promoting and supporting breastfeeding;
2. Integrate breastfeeding and breastfeeding related concepts in the basic education curriculum of all private and public institutions, both formal and non-formal modes, through the following strategies:
   2.1 Identify learning areas and points of entry where core messages about breastfeeding are to contextually developed and integrated;
   2.2 Develop instructional materials and related information, education and communication materials;
   2.3 Develop advocacy programs for parents on breastfeeding;
   2.4 Promote and review existing policies and materials to ensure that these will not undermine the promotion, protection and support for breastfeeding;
   2.5 Ensure the assessment and evaluation of knowledge, skills and attitudes (KSA) of pupils/students/teachers and parents on breastfeeding;
3. Develop awareness and competency of teaching, administrative and non-teaching personnel as well as parents on breastfeeding.

(c) Commission on Higher Education (CHED)

1. Ensure integration of breastfeeding related concepts in the curriculum of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), both public and private, including State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and local colleges through the following strategies:
2. Issue CHED Memorandum Orders (CMO) and CHED Special Orders (CSO) pursuant to the implementation of the Act 10028, and future policy and program developments to all concerned stakeholders through the various regional offices;
3. Encourage HEIs to promote breastfeeding through instruction, research and extension services; and
4. Initiate, monitor and evaluate the breastfeeding integration in the curriculum.

(d) Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

Ensure integration of breastfeeding related concepts in the curriculum of technical vocational institutions, both public and private, through identification of modules or vocational qualifications where breastfeeding can be integrated.

(e) Professional Regulations Commission (PRC)

1. Ensure inclusion of breastfeeding and breastfeeding related concepts in professional licensure examinations;
2. Develop and implement random mechanisms for a professional licensure related aim of the provisions of this RA 10, and
3. Address complaints of patients, relatives and the society on the violations concerning breastfeeding-related issues.

(f) Academe

1. Implement measures on integration of breastfeeding concepts in the curriculum;
2. Develop competencies for faculty members and instructors;
3. Provide related learning experiences (RLEs); and
4. Ensure provision of conducive and supportive environment to promote and support breastfeeding.

(g) Academic Organizations

1. Protect, promote and support breastfeeding through advocacy in organizational activities, fours and conventions among its members;
2. Recognize schools, higher educational institutions supportive of breastfeeding and sanctioning those violating its provisions;
3. Encourage and support relevant breastfeeding networks among its members; and
4. Provide financial support in academic-based breastfeeding projects.

(h) Professional and Socio-Civic Organizations

1. Adhere and implement among its members national policies and legislation on the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding;
2. Protect, promote and support breastfeeding through advocacy in organizational activities, fours, convention among its members;
3. Incorporate provisions on organizations' Code of Ethics to promote, protect and support breastfeeding in accordance to Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Fulanda Rights and gender and Sensitivity principles; and
4. Encourage and support relevant breastfeeding research among its members.

RULE VI
CONTINUING EDUCATION, RE-EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF HEALTH WORKERS AND HEALTH CARE STUDENTS

Section 33. Continuing Education, Re-education and Training of Health Workers and Health Institutions - The Department of Health with the assistance of other government agencies, professional and non-governmental organizations shall conduct continuing education, re-education and training programs for physicians, nurses, midwives, nutritionist-dietitians, community health workers and traditional birth attendants (TBAs) and other health and nutrition workers and allied professionals on current and updated lactation management. As such, the DOH through its Health Human Resource Development Bureau (HHRDB) and its other units, shall:

a. Develop and implement a capacity development plan to provide training, new interventions and such time that breastfeeding has been fully integrated in the medical and allied curricula;
b. Organize a pool of trainers and experts from government, NGOs, professional groups, and organizations who can be tapped by the health and non-health facilities, establishments or institutions to transfer the necessary knowledge and skills required for the implementation of this Act;
c. Develop and update minimum messages that will be adopted in training and other IEC materials to ensure consistency and correctness of the content of trainings on breastfeeding and lactation management;
d. In coordination with the Civil Service Commission, to develop an orientation course on breastfeeding for government employees.

RULE VII
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS PROGRAM ON BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION

Section 34. Celebration of Breastfeeding Awareness Month - In order to raise awareness on the importance of and to further promote breastfeeding, the month of August of every year throughout the Philippines shall be known as "Breastfeeding Awareness Month".

The DOH shall be the lead agency in the celebration of BF awareness month through institution of BF awareness events in the monthly health events and issuance of Department of Memorandum to all DOH health facilities, attached agencies and other concerned offices/departments.

Section 35. Public education and awareness program - It ensure the meaningful observance of breastfeeding month, a comprehensive national public education and awareness program shall be undertaken in order to achieve the following objectives:

a. To protect, promote and support breastfeeding in the Philippines as the normal, natural and preferred method of feeding infants and young children;
b. To guarantee the rightful place of breastfeeding in society as a key human right and nurturing ratio as well as a national health policy that must be enforced;
c. To provide information about the benefits and superiority of breastfeeding and the high risks and costs of bottlefeeding;
d. To generate awareness on, and full enforcement of, national and international laws, codes, policies and programs on the promotion and protection of safe and adequate nutrition for infants and young children by promoting and protecting breastfeeding and by regulating the marketing of and practices relating to breastfeeding products; and
e. To instill recognition and support and ensure access to comprehensive, current and culturally appropriate facilities for care and services for all women, children and families, including support for breastfeeding mothers in the work force.

The DOH shall lead in the development and implementation of this comprehensive national public education and awareness program on breastfeeding promotion in all levels in collaboration with other government agencies, non-government organizations, media groups, development partners, professional and civic groups throughout the following strategies:

a. **Philippine Health Promotion Program (PHPP) through Healthy Places/Settings** - a national multi-sectoral health promotion strategy which aims to communicate health messages and build health supportive environment through advocacy, partnership, empowerment and setting as per implementation Order No. 361. There are 10 healthy places/settings namely: schools, workplaces, hospitals, hotels, terminals, ports, communities, markets, eating places, prisons, homes, resorts, churches/mosques, camps and barangays;
b. **Communication for Behavioral Impact (COMBI)** - includes blending of behavior based on modern techniques in marketing along with other strategies to promote exclusive breastfeeding from families;
c. **Advocacy** - Advocacy is a process in being about change in the policies, laws and practices of influential individuals, groups and institutions. The primary audience on this strategy is the Local Chief Executives for them to provide support on nutrition budget in the implementation of the above stated BF promotion;
d. **Networking** - a process of linking up diverse individuals or groups, bringing about their mutual agreement to share one another's resources and competencies as a way of serving mutual interests.

At the same time the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) will support this national breastfeeding awareness program through the following strategies:

a. Plan and implement public education and awareness program for Republic Act 10028 to its relevant programs, services and projects;
b. Integrate Lactation management and breastfeeding principles and policies as appropriate in program manuals;
c. Develop a modular outreach approach to conduct a lactation advocacy orientation on lactation management and support for pregnant/nursing employees and and clients to its centers, residential care facilities and crisis intervention units (CIUs);
d. All other Government Agencies, Non-government institutions and private sectors are encouraged to support and contribute to the public education and awareness program on breastfeeding.

RULE VIII
MONITORING

Section 36. Monitoring, Implementation, Functions Implementing Institutional Arrangements Mechanism - Implementing Agency - The Department of Health shall be principally responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this Act.

Section 38. Implementation mechanism - a the responsibility of DOH, DSWD, LGUs, Employers, Trade Unions, NGOs, BIR, DTI, and others concerned parties.

Section 39. Monitoring guidelines - a In coordination with other agencies involved in the implementation of the Act, the Department of Health shall adopt such appropriate monitoring guidelines for the national, regional and provincial levels. It shall likewise provide regular training on monitoring compliance and evaluation on violations of the Act for all persons engaged in or volunteering to help in the monitoring and implementation of the Act. The Department may request for the assistance of non-governmental organizations, civil society, and concerned citizens and experts in order to better monitor the implementation of these rules. Accordingly, in monitoring them, composed of the following, is hereby created and established:

(a) National level:

DOH (NCDPC, NCHP, HEMO, NMC, BHFS)
Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)
Philhealth
Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
DOLE
Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR)
Civil Service Commission
Government-Non-government Organizations/Civil Societies without any conflict of interest with the breastfeeding policies, and/or direct or indirect connection, financial or otherwise, or with commercial interest within the scope of the Act
Ad Hoc International Agencies such as the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and/or the World Health Organization (WHO)

(b) Regional Provincial/City/Municipal/Barangay levels (in collaboration with their respective Local Government Units):

Center for Health Development Offices
National Nutrition Regional Offices
Regional DSWD, DILG, DOLE, CWC
Provincial Health Offices
City Health Offices
Licensing Units and Offices
Municipal Health Offices/Rural Health Units
Barangay Health Offices
DSWD/DILG/Civil Societies

(c) The Monitoring Team shall have the following functions:

1. Monitor compliance as well as problems encountered in the implementation of the Act;
2. Recommend on reported violations of the provisions of the Act;
3. Verify reports of violations of the Act;
4. Recommend sanctions on punitive actions for violations of the RA10 to the Secretary of Health;
5. Submit regular reports on the status of the implementation of this Act to the Secretary of Health.

Section 41. Report to the Secretary of Health - Non-governmental organizations, labor unions, religious groups, and/or civil societies may report their findings to the Office of the Secretary of Health who shall appropriately respond thereto with sufficient dispatch.

RULE IX
ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

Section 44. Sanctions - One year after the issuance of the IRR, any private non-health facility, establishment and/or institution which, unjustifiably refuses or fails to comply with the Directives 'C' and 'D' of this Rules shall be imposed a fine of not less than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) but not more than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) on the first offense. On the second offense, a fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) but not more than Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) and the cancellation or revocation of the business permits or licenses to operate.

In all cases, the fine imposed should take into consideration, among others, number of women employees, physical area of the establishment, and the average number of women who visit.

In addition, the Secretary of Health is hereby empowered to impose sanctions on health institutions for the violation of this Act and this rules issued thereunder. Such sanctions may include the suspension or revocation of the license to operate, accreditation, certificate of registration, suspension of the permit to operate of the erring health institution.

Heads, officials and employees of government health and non-health facilities, establishments and institutions who violates the Act shall further be subject to the following administrative penalties:

First offense - Reprimand
Second offense – Suspension for one (1) to thirty (30) days; and
Third offense – Dismissal

This shall be without prejudice to other liabilities applicable under civil service laws and rules.

RULE X
FUNDING

Section 45. Funding - Government agencies including their subdivisions and instrumentalities, shall use their respective budget for gender and development or their budgets for repairs, maintenance and materials acquisition to comply with Section 16 of these Rules.

RULE XI
FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 24. Separability Clause - If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act shall be declared to be invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Section 25. Repealing Clause - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are not consistent with the Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 26. Effectivity Clause - The Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

ENRIQUE T. ONA, MD, FPCS, FACS
Secretary of Health

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR
Legislative Compound, Pagasa, Naga City
BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Provincial Government of Camarines Sur, through its Bids and Awards Committee, hereby invites all prospective bidders to participate in the bidding for the following projects and to apply for eligibility and to submit the following proposal:

Name of Project	Procurement or Contract for PGCC Building
Location of Project	PGCC Compound
Approved Budget for the Contract	
Source of Fund	Local Funds

All authorized contractors in Republic Bidders and Awarding Bid Security, Performance Security, Philippines, Philippines Government Procurement Law, and Standard Bidding Documents and Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

Item No.	Item/ Description	QTY.	Unit of Issue	Total Cost
1	Design Build	1	Lot	Php 10,000,000.00
2	Electrical Facilities	1	Lot	Php 10,000,000.00
3	Mechanical Facilities	1	Lot	Php 10,000,000.00

The complete schedule of activities is shown, as follows:

	Bids' Activities	Date/Time	Venue
1.	Advertisement	August 19, 2011	Posted (PG)
2.	Pre-Bid Conference	August 22, 2011	Bac Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, Pagasa, Naga City
3.	Issuance of Bidding Documents	September 1, 2011	Bac Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, Pagasa, Naga City
4.	Receipt of Bids	September 15, 2011	Bac Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, Pagasa, Naga City
5.	Opening of Bids	September 15, 2011	Bac Hall, Provincial Capitol Building, Pagasa, Naga City

The complete schedule of activities is shown, as follows:

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The Bids and Awards Committee will conduct its pre-qualification (Secretary of Kagawaran ng Pananalapi) on the bidding, Letter of Intent and payment of the Bid Documents and Plans/Blueprints. Prospective bidders shall submit their duly accomplished Application at the Bids Office and the payment of the Bid Documents shall be made to the Provincial Treasurer's Office.

The PGCC shall issue **Bidding Documents** to prospective bidders who have been pre-qualified during the bidding and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in **Philippine Peso** for the corresponding amount listed in the following bidding schedule of Project.

It is the Bids' Committee's policy to participate in the competitive bidders who have submitted letter of intent to bid and purchased the bidding documents.

All bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security** in a form of cash or cashier's check equivalent to 2% of the ABC and valid for six months. Bid bags from the date of the opening of bids.

The Provincial Government of Camarines Sur reserves its responsibility of bidders to participate or indefinitely postpone the bidding in the interest of the government at their discretion.

The Provincial Government of Camarines Sur reserves the right to reject any, all, to waive the bidding process, and to negotiate bids any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

Approved by:

ANTONIO MIGUELITO G. MEDIONILLO
Provincial Administrator
BAC Chairman

PPA – August 22, 2011

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. IV-A
(Formerly Region IV), 5 Dona Julia Vargas Avenue, Cabarroguis
Quezon Province, Philippines 3419
Telefax Nos.: (042) 632-0232

August 23, 2011

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice and posting is given that the following employers/companies/corporations have filed with this Regional Office applications for the Alien Employment Permit:

	Name and Address of Company/ Employer	Name and Nationality of Foreign National	Position and Brief Description of Functions
1.	MET-LEPANDO INTERNATIONAL CORP. c/o Atlantic Industrial Zone, Gateway Business Park, Brgy. Mabolo, Trece Martires City, Cavite	Mr. Tirachai Wat Thailand	Pattern Maker
2.	PHILIPPINE TOA CHEMICAL CORPORATION Brgy. Bucandala, Imus, Cavite	Mr. Kenneth Gil Japanese	Vice President
3.	THE RANSON INDUSTRIES INC. Brgy. Bucandala, Imus, Cavite	Mr. Kwok Kwan Sau Korean	Production Advisor
4.	DAIN HOUSE ELECTRIC (Hong Kong) Ltd. CPAP Shop, Bistro, Carmona City	Mr. Hanggawal Mal Korean	Sales Manager
5.	PHILIPPINES EPSON INDUSTRIES INC. SEZ-EDP, Laguna Technopark, Binan, Laguna	Mr. Kiyoshiro Mitsuhiro Japanese	Production Control Manager
6.	SHIMA SANGYO Co. Ltd. Brgy. Bucandala, Imus, Cavite	Mr. Kil Young Lee Korean	Treasurer and Chief Executive Officer
7.	SYNAMIC HARDWARE YOUR ELECTRONICS INC. PEZA, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Rodriguez Ivan Korean	Vice President
8.	SYNAMIC HARDWARE YOUR ELECTRONICS INC. PEZA, Rosario, Cavite	Mr. Kwanggeonuk Shin Lee/Mr.of Yeon Korean	President

If you have any information and data that may help the Department in processing the application, please communicate with the Office.

ATTY. RICARDO E. MARTINEZ, JR., CESO III
Regional Director

To avail of free job referral, placement, and employment guidance services, visit the nearest PUBLIC Employment Service Offices (PESO) or log on to **www.phil-job.net**

PPA August 23, 2011

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
BICOL GENERAL HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER
Naga City

INVITATION TO BID

1. The **BICOL GENERAL HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER (BGHMC)**, through the Hospital Bids and Awards Committee (HBAC), invites bids for the supply of **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT** with the following Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) for the payment of the supply of **LISTED EQUIPMENT**.

   Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening.

2. The **BGHMC** now invites bids from eligible bidders for the above stated project. Bidder should have completed within the last five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section 5 of the Bidding Documents, viz:

3. Bidding will be open to all interested and competent bidding secretary using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act" and also open to prospective bidders from abroad under certain conditions, as specified in the IRR. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Hospital Bids and Awards Committee (HBAC) Secretariat and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below.

4. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines.

5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from **August 29, 2011, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.** at the Office of the Chief Medical Specialist, Bicol General Hospital & Medical Center, Naga City and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of **Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00)** and receipt. The method of payment will be in cash, cashier's check or manager's check. It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the PhilGEPS and the website of the procuring entity, if available.

6. The **BGHMC** will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on **September 5, 2011, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Administration Building, which shall be open only to prospective bidders that have purchased the Bidding Documents.

7. Bids must be submitted on or before **10:00AM September 12, 2011** at the Office of the Chief Medical Specialist, Bicol General Hospital & Medical Center, Naga City. Late bids shall not be accepted. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any form specified in Section 27.2 of the IRR of RA 9184 in the amount of two percent (2%) of the ABC.

8. **Bid Opening shall be on September 12, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.** at the **BAC/HBAC Conference** Room, 2nd Floor, Administration Building. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

9. The **BGHMC** reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

10. For further information, please refer to: Maria Teresa V. Orquillo
Office of the Chief Medical Specialist-Staff
BGHMC, Region V, Naga

Date: **AUGUST 8, 2011**
Bids and Awards Committee

PPA – August 08, 2011

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Central Office Bids and Awards Committee

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REI)

The Department of Health, through its Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (CODAC), invites Individual Consultants to Apply for Eligibility and Shortlisting for the following projects:

Name of Project	Brief Description of the Project	Type	Funding Source	Evaluation Procedure
Monitoring and Evaluation Consultancy for Completed Health Facilities Project for Villanueva, Misamis Oriental	To render consultancy services in monitoring and evaluation of completed health facilities in the aforementioned municipality; to undertake interviews and meetings from time to time with the beneficiaries of the project; and to prepare an evaluation report and recommendations for policy formulation/decision making	Individual	Monitoring Utilities Project	Consultant's Qualification Selection

1. The DOH now opens for the submission of eligibility documents. Interested Individual Consultants must submit their Letter of Interest (LOI) to apply for eligibility and shortlisting for the above consulting projects on or before **12 September 2011, 11:00 A.M.** at 5/F Building 1, Central Office Compound, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila. Applications for eligibility will be evaluated based on minimum qualifications.

2. The CODAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents/ Expression of Interest and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the criteria of the publicly disclosed selection procedure. Only those consultants who are shortlisted will be invited to submit a technical proposal and financial proposal (FP). The short list shall include a minimum of three (3) prospective bidders which will be entitled to submit bids.

3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using an internationally accepted method as specified in RA 9184 or its IRR, and is open to all prospective Filipino contractors and suppliers and associations (JVA) unless belonging to areas of the Philippines, or as otherwise provided in Sec. 47 of R.A. 9184, who have been declared ineligible by the Government. Foreign bidders may be allowed to participate pursuant to Section 5 (b) of RA 9184 and its IRR, subject to certain conditions.

The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the bid documents.

4. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the Department of Health at the address given below from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Individuals may download eligibility documents and notice from the PHILGEPS website: www.philgeps.gov.ph or through its handbook at 840-63-11 loc 28.

The DOH reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract without incurring any liability, and to waive any defect or irregularity in any bid submitted. DOH also reserves the right at any time during the pre-bid and post-qualification process to declare a failure of bidding if the pre-bid and post-qualification documents have been revised, amended, or withdrawn, or if there are changes in the provisions of the contract that substantially affect the project cost, scope or purpose, or if the cost of the most responsive bid or the calculated Project Cost of the Most Advantageous Offer exceeds the ABC, unless otherwise allowed by the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB). In addition, the DOH reserves the right to reject any bid that is found to be non-responsive, and to waive any defect or irregularity in any bid, when it shall be in the best interest of the Government to do so.

CODAC SECRETARIAT
Department of Health
4/F Food Building 5, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003

Tel. No. 651-7800 Loc. 1301, 1302, Telefax No. 743-8301 Loc. 1330
Website: www.doh.gov.ph, Email: codac@doh.gov.ph

Approved by:

(Sgd.) MERCEDES T. CAHILIG, MD, MPH, CESO II
Assistant Secretary (Health)
Chairperson, CODAC

(PSE-August 28, 2011)

Republic of the Philippines
SENATE
Pasay City

INVITATION TO BID

The Senate of the Philippines, through its Bids and Awards Committee, invites all **S-EPS** registered bidders/suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid on the following:

	DESCRIPTION	PROJECT ALLOCATION	NON-REFUNDABLE FEE
1.	SUPPLY OF ONE (1) UNIT 4WD with snowchains	Php1,600,000.00	Php1,600.00
2.	LEASE/RENTAL OF ENGAGEMENT & DISENGAGEMENT SERVICES, with Scope of Work		Php3,000.00
3.	LEASE/SUPPLY OF GASOLINE & DIESEL FUEL, with Scope of Work	Php4,000,000.00	Php3,000.00

The bidding documents shall be available to interested bidders/suppliers at the BAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 401, 4/F Senate of the Philippines, GSIS Building, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City from **9 AM-12 NN and 2-5 PM** starting **SEPTEMBER 1, 2011** upon payment of non-refundable fee as indicated above. The pre-bidding conference and submission/opening of bids will be held at the Office of the Deputy Secretary for Administration and Finance, Rm. 408, Senate of the Philippines, Pasay City on the following dates:

PRE-BIDDING CONFERENCE	SUBMISSION/OPENING OF BIDS
September 12, 2011 (Monday), 10:00 AM	September 20, 2011 (Monday), 10:0 AM

All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid consideration, and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of R.A. 9184 otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Bids received in excess of the Approved Budget of the Contract (ABC) shall be automatically rejected at bid opening. LATE BIDS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ALTERNATIVE BIDS SHALL BE REJECTED.

This invitation is also advertised with the Government Electronic Procurement System (G-EPS) and posted at the Senate bulletin boards.

For inquiry, please call the BAC Secretariat Office at Telefax No. 552-6601 local 1602 (c/o Ness de Castro).

THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES RESERVES THE RIGHT TO 1) REVIEW ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS; 2) REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS; 3) CONSOLIDATE THE BID SEND ABSENT PURSUE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION SHOULD A BIDDER BE FOUND TO HAVE VIOLATED R.A. 9184; 4) WAIVE ANY DEFECTS CONTAINED THEREIN; and/or 5) ACCEPT THE OFFER MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE GOVERNMENT. ANY DECISION MADE BY THE SENATE IS FINAL AND EXECUTORY.

FURTHER, THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ASSUMES NO OBLIGATION WHATSOEVER TO COMPENSATE ANY BIDDER FOR ANY EXPENSE INCURRED IN PREPARATION AS THE CASE MAY BE, FOR ANY EXPENSE OR LOSS THAT SAID PARTY/IES MAY INCUR IN ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE PREBIDDING AND BIDDING PROCESS NOR DOES IT GUARANTEE THAT AN AWARD WILL BE MADE.

(Sgd.) ATTY. ARNEL JOSE S. BARAS
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PSE – August 28, 2011)

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Maharlika Highway, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, Philippines 3100
Tel. No. 044-4560 * Tel. No. (044) 931-3560

NOTICE OF SEARCH FOR NMSU PRESIDENCY

The Board of Regents of the Nueva Ecijanian State University, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, City formally and publicly announces that the Search for President is now open.

Minimum Qualifications:

Applicants for the NMSU Presidency must possess the following minimum qualifications:

1. Must not be more than 65 years old as on November 30, 2011;
2. Must be a holder of at least a master's degree;
3. Must be a holder of an earned Doctoral degree;
4. Must have at least ten (10) years experience such as President, Vice-President, Campus Administrator, Dean, Chancellor or Higher Education Institution (HEI) whether in public or private, for at least a period of five (5) years. Those who graduated from the Academy in Special Curriculum Program (SCP) from the commissioned ranks during the consolidation, professional public administration experience shall be counted accordingly;
5. Must not have been convicted of any administrative offense or of any crime involving moral turpitude.

Any public personnel who may be considered for appointment to the position possessing the above qualifications and having the highest qualifying educational, experience, eligibility, and training shall be accredited from the search process.

Government Requirements:

Interested applicants must submit only 1 set of original and eight (8) certified photocopies of the following documents to the NVSU Secretariat:

1. Formal Application Letter addressed to the Chairperson of CHED;
2. Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV), duly notarized;
3. Certified Photocopy of Baccalaureate Diploma and of the transcripts of records;
4. Applicant's Personnel Data, Ministry and Development Goals for the University;
5. Certification/Clearance from the following government agencies, obtained not more than one (1) month from the date it being of application indicating that applicant has no pending administrative and/or criminal cases or complaints:
   - Ombudsman
   - Sandiganbayan
   - Civil Service Commission (CSC)
   - National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
   - Professional Company where applicant is presently employed
6. Duly accomplished Personal Data Sheet (PDS) duly notarized;
7. NBI Authorization/Clearance;
8. Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness issued by a physician from a government hospital(s), accredited health institution (or not the same institution where the applicant is presently employed);
9. Results of Psychological Profile Examination conducted by a physician from a government hospital(s), accredited health institution (or not the same institution where the applicant is presently employed);
10. Certification from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) indicating that applicant has no pending administrative case/s and/or criminal case/s.

Important: Interested applicant must send the above mentioned documentary requirements in sixteen (8) sets/copies on or before **September 23, 2011** to the address of the following:

Atty. Rene G. Nicolas, Ph.D. OR Engr. Wilfredo P. Aquino, CCE
Chair, CHED Search Committee Chairman, Board of Regents
Commission on Higher Education Nueva Ecija State University
CHED Bldg., C.P. Garcia Ave. Science Hills, Bakakeng
U.P. Campus, Diliman City Cabanatuan City

(PSE – August 28, 2011)

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS
College, Laguna 4031

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)
(For supplies, materials, equipment, and services)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to submit bids for the following items:

Reference No.	Description	Duration	Approved Budget	Bidding Fee (PHP)
UPLB-B-169-11	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LABORATORY AND SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT FOR LINLINC	CAS 000	1,500,000.00	2,000.00

Interested bidders may secure the Bidding Documents from the Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat (BAC-Sec) Office at UPLB, Quirino Road, College, Los Baños. The bid forms may also be downloaded online from UPLB website (http://bidding.uplb.edu.ph) free of charge. Prospective bidders may submit their bids at the BAC-Sec Office or upon submission of eligibility requirements, or on the day of submission/opening of bids.

The schedule of bidding activities is as follows:

Activities	Date	Venue
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	August 31, 2011 (0900) Until 4:00 p.m.	BAC Secretariat Office, UPLB, Quirino Road, College, Laguna
2. Submission of Eligibility Requirements	September 14, 2011	
3. Pre-bid Conference	September 7, 2011 (1:30 p.m.)	
4. Submission/Opening of Bids	September 21, 2011 (0900)	

The UP System reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a failure of bidding without incurring any liability, and to waive any defect therein and accept an award to be taken in the best interest of the University. The University's Bidding Committee reserves the right to disqualify any bidder found to have submitted false information in the preparation of its bid/s to assure guarantee that the award shall be made.

Inquiries may be forwarded to Ms. Cristina Luis Quiroz, Chair, BAC Secretariat at telephone nos. (049) 536-38-10 loc (104) 8401.

(Sgd.)
DINA M. AGBAGA
Chair, BAC

(PSE – July 24, 2011)

PMAP Conference to tackle HR Mandate of the New World

THE PEOPLE MANAGEMENT Association of the Philippines (PMAP) in its commitment to promote human resource development will again gather some of the country's and Asia's best-known HR leaders in people management to discuss trends, issues, and challenges facing people managers in a dynamic and highly competitive business setting. As the world changes rapidly, every member of an organization should be able to easily switch tasks and learn to be adept to every twist and turn in the industry.

The 48th PMAP Annual Conference will be happening at The Atrium, Limketkai Center, Cagayan de Oro City from Oct. 12 to 14 with the theme "Tao Moma, Dyanibal The HR Mandate of the New World."

The conference is considered as the premiere gathering of people managers and HR professionals in the country and has been renowned for trailblazing new paths in people management, HR management and leadership. It also features cutting-edge human works, trends, best practices, case studies, research finding delivered through interactive learning sessions, "hands-on workshops and presented by notable speakers.

This year, conference-goers can look forward to an even more in-depth and innovative approach like in-depth and interactive discussions, open space technology, social technologies, outdoor experiential learning and environment friendly processes.

Success belongs to the people managers who can unleash and nurture the potential in the hearts of their people. It's a fact that we are now living in a very competitive world and it is essential that every member of an organization should have the ability to compete especially those who are assigned to manage people in the company.

Be equipped to face every challenge that will come your way. Be among the 1,300 participants expected to converge at the conference.

Registration for the PMAP annual conference is going on with discounted rates for early registrants. For more information, you may call the PMAP Secretariat at tel no. 726-1532 or email pmap@pmap.org.ph.

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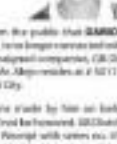
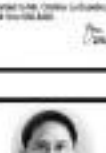
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that **DARIO ALEJO**, subway photo appraiser attorney, is no longer connected with Mediamark Solutions, Corp. nor his assigned companies, GB Distributions and Zuellig Pharma Corp. Mr. Alejo resides at # 1011 Gen. Ricarte St. South Corridor, Makati City.

Any transaction made by him on behalf of the mentioned companies will not be honored. GB Distributions Office and Navigation Collection Receipt with names ex. 017811 to 017900 were not surrendered by Mr. Alejo thus will be considered void.

(PSE – August 28, 2011)



FR. ADONIS LLAMAS NARCELLES, Jr., SVD

(30 June 1973 – 29 July 2011)

"I have glorified you on earth. I have finished the work that you gave me to do." – recited by Fr. Adonis on 29th of May 2011

preached and led Lord Jesus the Divine Word
on Friday, the 29th day of July 2011 at the age of 38 in Berlin, Germany
and ended a life of service while praying the Angelus of the Divine Mercy
after a year-filled battle with pancreatic cancer

Chaplain, Philippine Community Berlin (April '24, 2004 - July 29, 2011)
Parish, DPG Community, Berlin (May 31, 2007 - July 29, 2011)

Sunday, 31st of August 2011 at Pancake Haus
Bayerischer Platz, Schöneberg
1 PM – Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
2 PM – Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Concelebrant of the 1st Holy Mass:
Rev. Fr. Dr. Clemens Blank, SVD, Provincial Superior
Rev. Fr. Dr. Gerhard Hoffmann, SVD, Provincial Superior

Concelebrant of the 2nd Holy Mass:
Rev. Fr. Dr. Clemens Blank, SVD, Provincial Superior
Rev. Fr. Dr. Gerhard Hoffmann, SVD, Provincial Superior

Sunday, 11th of September 2011 at St. John "Baptist Church Gesundbrunnen Pergamon
Gerichtstr. 23, 13347 Berlin-Wedding
1 PM – Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
2 PM – Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
Concelebrant of the 1st Holy Mass: Rev. Fr. Dr. Clemens Blank, SVD, Provincial Superior
Concelebrant of the 2nd Holy Mass: Rev. Fr. Dr. Clemens Blank, SVD, Provincial Superior

The Word of God, Prayer, and Holy Eucharist unite us spiritually in praise, prayer, and appreciation for the spiritual growth and love shared by Fr. Adonis with the Philippine Community in Berlin and the Philippines.

For more information about the funds and payment options of Fr. Adonis, please contact Angelina Tiongson (philippinesberlin@...) or Mel Tiongco (...@yahoo.com).

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BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the irrevocable project:

Name of Project/Brief Description	Supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of an Integrated Electronic Security System in the following BSP Branches per BSP's Scope of Work, Terms of Reference and Service Level Agreement: Lot 1 – Naga Branch Lot 2 – Zamboanga Branch Lot 3 – Davao Branch Lot 4 – Tacloban Branch Lot 5 – Dumaguete Branch
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Lot 1 – P10,000,000.00 Lot 2 – P10,000,000.00 Lot 3 – P10,100,000.00 Lot 4 – P10,100,000.00 Lot 5 – P10,100,000.00
Completion Period	Within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from date of issuance of the Notice to Proceed by the Security Investigation and Transport Department, which Notice will be issued within five (5) working days after receipt of a copy of the executed contract.

Prospective bidders should have undertaken a similar requirement awarded and completed from 1/1/2008 to prospective bidders to accept 50% of the ABC of the lot or its equivalent in single lot, the highest ABC of the lot/s to be bid. The Eligibility Check/ Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Prebidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 9184 and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	starting 31 AUGUST 2011 from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 NN and 1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. only) Procurement Office Room 313, 3rd Floor, Fire Sterry Building A. Mabini corner P. Burgos St. Binalbagan, Negros Occidental Tel. No. 034-473-8000 loc. No. 330-340
2. Pre-bid Conference	21 SEPTEMBER 2011, 2:00 P.M.
3. Opening of Bids	14 OCTOBER 2011, 9:30 A.M.
4. Bid Evaluation	7 days shall be in accordance with the prescribed periods allowed in the revised IRR of R.A. No. 9184
5. Post-qualification	
6. Notice of Award	

The TOR and Checklist of Requirements for Bidders may be downloaded from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the BSP Website (www.bsp.gov.ph). The complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders from the address stated above upon presentation of the PhilGEPS Supplier's Enlistment Card and payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00 (Lot 1), P5,000.00 (Lot 2), P5,100.00 (Lot 3), P5,100.00 (Lot 4) and P5,100.00 (Lot 5).

The BSP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to declare the bidding a failure, not to award the contract, to waive the bidding process and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/s. Furthermore, the BSP reserves the right to waive any minor defects or formality and to accept the proposal most advantageous to the agency.

(Sgd.) HECTOR C. CARLITOS
Vice-Chairman

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PAMBANSANG KAWANIHANAN NG PALAY
Diliman, Quezon City
Bonifacio Monument Circle, Mindanao Avenue
Regional Management Office
Guanzon St., Brgy. Obrero, Davao City

INVITATION TO BID

The Pambansang Kawanihan ng Palay (PKP), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites all interested parties to participate in the bidding for the following projects:

Project ID No.	Project Name	Location	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183.

Interested bidders may obtain further information at the Bidding Documents and view the complete Invitation to Bid at the PKP Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat, 3rd Floor, Bonifacio Monument Circle, Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City from [illegible] to [illegible].

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of [illegible] at the cashier's office at the above address. Bidders must present their Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) Certificate of Registration (Platinum Membership) at the time of purchase of the Bidding Documents.

The Pambansang Kawanihan ng Palay reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) [illegible]
BAC Chairman

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Batangas
Municipality of Lobo

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Municipality of Lobo, Province of Batangas, through its duly constituted Bids and Awards Committee, invites all interested parties to participate in the bidding for the following projects:

Project ID No.	Project Name	Location	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183.

Interested bidders may obtain further information at the Bidding Documents and view the complete Invitation to Bid at the Municipal Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat, 3rd Floor, Municipal Hall, Lobo, Batangas from [illegible] to [illegible].

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of [illegible] at the cashier's office at the above address. Bidders must present their Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) Certificate of Registration (Platinum Membership) at the time of purchase of the Bidding Documents.

The Municipality of Lobo reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) [illegible]
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

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PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

TCT No.	Location	Type	Land Area in sq.m. (more or less)	Estimated Mortgagee Bid (Php)	Date and Time of Auction	Place of Auction
2,222 TCTs	located within Barangay Bonifacio, Brgy. San Jose, Municipality of San Miguel, Province of Bulacan. The city is approximately 200 meters west from San Juan Brgy. Chapel, some 400 meters southeast from the corner of Municipal and Magsaysay Roads in the vicinity of San Miguel Municipal Hall.	Residential Land	various	50,000,000	Aug. 30, 2011 10:00 a.m.	Inform of the Office: Ex-Officio Sheriff of Bulacan, Provincial Capitol Compound, Malolos, Bulacan

Subdivision Gate

Phase 1A

Phase 1B

Phase 2C

Vicinity Map

All properties are to be sold on "As-Is, Where-Is" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 811-7355 / 811-7356 or send an email to: [illegible]

PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

TCT No.	Location	Type	Land Area in sq.m. (more or less)	Estimated Mortgagee Bid (Php)	Date and Time of Auction	Place of Auction
220 TCTs including 14 Real Lot Commercial Plot	Located within Subdivision, within Brgy. Bagbag, Macabebian District, Cabanatuan City. Situated on the south west of Asteroid Mixed within Sunnyville Subdivision, some 200 meters south of Alexandria Lot bet. Pascual Avenue, 300 meters south of Our Lady of The Angels Franciscan Seminary **Note:** *22 more subdivision TCTs with improvements are also available. Please contact 632-7300 for details.*	Residential land	Total of 11,080.85	10,113,246	TBA	TBA

Entrance Gate of Sunday Cascades

VICINITY MAP

All properties are to be sold on "As-Is, Where-Is" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation of the physical and legal condition of the property prior to the auction dates.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 811-7355 / 811-7356 or send an email to: [illegible]

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- Graduate of any 4-5 year course
- 3+ years work experience in the field of security industry and security systems

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- 1+ years experience in Business Continuity and Crisis Management

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- With 1-3 years supervisory experience

Senior Finance Analysts
- Graduate of Accountancy or Finance related courses
- 3+ years experience in finance
- Analytical and has good problem-solving skills

Global Asset Protection Lead
- 10+ years experience in physical security field at government, Corporate 1000 or larger company
- Ability to travel 25% of the time of which 60% will be on short notice

Client Finance Management Lead
- Post graduate degree (or equivalent) in Finance or Accounting
- 10+ years of work experience in Finance

Business Continuity Management (BCM) Lead
- 10+ years managerial experience
- Solid background in management of business risks in areas of business continuity
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